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ANDROPOV REPLIES TO REAGAN DISARMAMENT PROPOSAL

LD011636 Moscow TASS in English 1632 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA for February 2 publishes the answers by Yuriy Andropov to questions by its correspondent.

Question: What is your attitude to the U.S. President's letter to the people of Europe, in which he proposed that the USSR and the United States sign on American terms an agreement on the elimination of medium-range land-based missiles?

Answer: First of all, I must say quite definitely that there is nothing new in President R. Reagan's proposal. What it is all about -- and this all the world's news agencies have immediately taken note of -- is the same "zero option". That it is patently unacceptable to the Soviet Union now is already generally recognised. Really, can one seriously speak about a proposal according to which the Soviet Union would have to scrap unilaterally all its medium-range missiles, while the United States and its NATO allies would retain all their nuclear weapons of this category.

It is precisely this unrealistic position of the United States that has blocked, and this is well known, progress at the talks in Geneva. That now the U.S. President has reiterated again this position indicates one thing: The United States does not want to look for a mutually acceptable accord with the Soviet Union and thereby deliberately dooms the Geneva talks to failure.

As I have already said, the U.S.S.R. will not agree to unilateral disarmament. If things are carried to the deployment of new U.S. missiles in Europe, we shall answer this in a due way. But this would not be our choice.

The Soviet Union is for a different road. It would be best, and we suggest this, not to have in the European zone nuclear weapons at all, either medium-range or tactical weapons. And seems [as received] the United States does not agree to this, we are prepared also to such a solution under which the Soviet Union would have no more missiles than NATO already has in Europe. At the same time an arrangement should be reached on cutting to the equal levels by both sides of the number of aircraft capable of medium-range nuclear weapon delivery. Thus, there would be complete parity in missiles and aircraft, and the parity at a far lower level than now.

The Soviet Union is prepared to sign such an agreement. Is the President of the United States prepared to sign such an agreement based on the principle of equality and equal security?

Question: The U.S. President suggests meeting with you to sign the agreement which he proposes. What can you say on this score?

Answer: We have believed and still believe that summit meetings have special significance to resolving complicated problems. This determines our serious approach to them.

For us this is not a matter of a political or a propaganda game. A meeting between the leaders of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A., aimed at finding mutually acceptable solutions to urgent problems and at developing relations between our countries, would be useful both to the Soviet Union and to the United States of America, to Europe and to the whole world.

But when the U.S. President makes the meeting conditional on the Soviet Union's consent to the patently unacceptable solution to the problem of nuclear armaments in Europe, proposed by him, this by no means testifies to the seriousness of the American leadership's approach to the whole of this issue. This can only be regretted.

[Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 2 February carries on page 1 the above interview with Yuriy Andropov. The interview in PRAVDA, entitled "Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's Replies to a PRAVDA's Correspondent's Questions" has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version and minus the TASS dateline and introductory paragraph has been found to be identical except for the following variation: Paragraph six, line three reads in PRAVDA: ...In so far as the United States... (substituting "in so far as" for "and seems [as received]"]

U.S.-USSR INF DELEGATIONS HOLD MEETING 1 FEB

LD011202 Moscow TASS in English 1142 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva February 1 TASS -- The delegations from the Soviet Union and the United States held a plenary meeting here today at the talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe.

DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE SESSION OPENS IN GENEVA

LD011135 Moscow TASS in English 1039 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva February 1 TASS -- The 1983 12-week session of the Committee on Disarmament opened here today. The priority items on the agenda of the current session are talks on termination of the nuclear arms race and on nuclear disarmament, on the prohibition of nuclear tests, the problem of prevention of the arms race in outer space, an all-embracing programme of disarmament, a ban on radiological weapons, and the strengthening of guarantees of security for non-nuclear states.

The Committee on Disarmament is an important component of the international mechanism of multi-lateral talks on disarmament. (?The) committee consists of five nuclear states (the PRC, the USA, France, Britain, and the USSR) and 35 other states including Algeria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Japan, Cuba, the GDR, Mongolia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Sweden and the FRG.

Israelyan Remarks on Session

LD011440 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Today the Disarmament Committee renewed its work at the Geneva Palace of Nations. Here is what Viktor Levonovich Israelyan, the head of the Soviet delegation at the committee said to our correspondent:

[Begin Israelyan recording] The session of the Disarmament Committee has opened in an aggravated international situation. The military preparations of the United States of America and its NATO allies have reached a huge scale.

Various conceptions of the possibility of nuclear war are being propagandized. New programs for building various types of weapons, including one of mass destruction, are being formulated. Of course, in these conditions, the tasks of the Disarmament Committee are particularly responsible ones. Concerning these tasks, the Prague conference of Warsaw Pact member-states set specific tasks.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that the new major initiatives advanced in the speeches of Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and in the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact member-states will undoubtedly be at the center of attention of the committee's work. [end recording]

Prague Declaration To Be Reviewed

LD011938 Moscow TASS in English 1914 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva January 1 TASS -- A session of the Disarmament Committee has opened in the Geneva Palace of Nations today. On the agenda of the session is a number of most important issues, whose resolution is designed to contribute to ending the arms race and preventing the threat of nuclear war. In the focus of attention of the delegates to the session is the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states, which has been issued here as an official document of the Disarmament Committee.

Opening the session, committee chairman, representative of Mongolia, Ambassador Dugersurengiyn Erdembileg stressed that all the committee member-states are responsible for the destinies of peace and disarmament. He called for the speediest attainment of specific results on topical disarmament issues, whose discussion is hampered by the USA and its NATO allies.

Soviet representative Viktor Israelyan stressed the need for speeding up the attainment of agreements at the committee on such issues as the drafting of a treaty on complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapons tests, on concluding an international convention on prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, a convention on the prohibition of neutron weapons, a treaty banning the deployment of weapons of any type in outer space, reaching agreement on an international convention prohibiting radiological weapons. The Soviet delegate drew attention to the fact that any complex issues of the disarmament talks can be successfully resolved on the basis of observance of the principle of equality and equal security of the sides -- participants in the talks.

The year of 1983 can be made a turning point in the development of the international situation from the growing danger of war towards strengthening peace, the head of the Soviet delegation said.

Mexican representative Alfonso Garcia Robles condemned the obstructionist policy of the USA. He criticized various concepts of a "limited nuclear war", "protracted nuclear conflict" and "preventive nuclear strike". The inflexible stand of the USA at the bilateral Geneva talks prevents the attainment of mutually acceptable agreements, Robles stressed.

U.S. ATTEMPTS TO PUBLICIZE 'ZERO OPTION' CRITICIZED

LD011830 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS -- TASS news analyst Igor Orlov writes:

Paradoxically, the more the so-called "zero option" is criticized, the more Washington's officials are trying to publicize it.

Meanwhile it is clear to anyone who is ready to reckon with real facts, the observer notes, that the "zero option" proposed by Washington means a sharp upsetting of the rough parity in arms, which has shaped in many years.

It is possible to reach mutually acceptable agreements, the observer writes, only on the basis of the principles of equality and equal security. The American "zero option" is in crying conflict with these principles.

The perseverence and the publicity ploys used in an attempt to "sell it" to the public cannot dispel the wide-spread opinion that the only aim of the notorious "zero option" is to create a cover for the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe in an attempt to eliminate the present balance in the military-strategic field.

PONOMAREV CONTRASTS U.S., USSR START POSITIONS

LD011758 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1711 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, 1 Feb (TASS) -- TASS observer Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The third round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting and reducing strategic weapons begins in Geneva tomorrow. Unfortunately, the two preceding rounds did not produce any encouraging results. The reason for this, to put it briefly, is that Washington strove at the talks to gain military advantages. For its part, the USSR, which regards the achievement of accord with the United States on limiting and reducing strategic nuclear weapons as one of the main ways leading to a real reduction of the threat of nuclear war, is seeking an agreement which would not harm either side. In our view, this is what the differences in approach and positions of the sides at the Geneva talks amounted to.

The USSR is proposing and is ready to reduce its strategic armaments by more than 25 percent. U.S. arms should be reduced correspondingly so that the number of carriers of strategic weapons possessed by both sides would be the same. Here the Soviet side proceeds from the real position which has arisen over several decades. This is a position in which the strategic nuclear forces of the USSR and the United States are essentially different in their structure. The point is that 70 percent of the USSR's strategic potential (in number of warheads) is made up of ground-based intercontinental ballistic missiles while 80 percent of the U.S. strategic potential is made up of submarine-based ballistic missiles and heavy bombers. The number of nuclear charges on these carriers would be reduced to equal, coordinated levels, and at all! [as received] stages of reduction the USSR and the United States would remain in an equal position from the point of view of their security.

The Soviet proposals embrace all types of strategic weapons, envisage the reduction of arsenals of these by many hundreds of units and close off all possible channels for a further arms race in this sphere. The USSR also proposes that the strategic arsenals of both sides be frozen while the talks are in progress. Unfortunately, the United States occupies a negative position on all these questions. In particular, it proposes a reduction only in ground-based missiles which would effectively leave the USSR without strategic forces.

The two previous rounds of talks showed that Washington is in essence striving for an impasse situation while at the same time accelerating the buildup in its strategic forces. Time will show what the American delegation has brought with it to Geneva this time. As far as the USSR is concerned, it is in favor of reaching an understanding with the United States but only on an equal basis. As Yuiry Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in his report on 21 December last year, a policy based on a striving to achieve military superiority over the USSR is futile and is capable only of intensifying the threat of war.

'INTERMEDIATE SOLUTION' ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE

WA011505 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 4 Signed to Press 18 Jan 83 p 7

["Compromises and Principles" by Nikolay Portugalov]

[Text] Most political observers in the West have now come to the conclusion that the Americans will fail to maintain their "zero" position at the European nuclear armaments talks in Geneva. The Soviet proposals of December 21, 1982, have turned out to be very attractive to the West Europeans, so attractive that those on the other side of the Atlantic cannot pretend that nothing has happened.

Today in the West the newspaper columns, radio and TV broadcasts are not the only participants in the discussions on the means of achieving a compromise in Geneva; certain prominent politicians are also joining in the process, proposing a so-called "intermediate agreement" or "intermediate solution" in medium-range weapons. They include -- to mention a few well-known supporters -- the West German Minister for Foreign Affairs Genscher, his British counterpart Pym, NATO Secretary-General Luns, and others. Leaving aside certain modifications, the "intermediate agreement" boils down, in the words of its sponsors, "to an elimination of Soviet supremacy in medium-range nuclear weapons and a simultaneous reduction in the scope of the US complementary armament". Some formula! In plain English, it means that the Soviet Union will reduce the number of its medium-range missiles, while the Americans will deploy not 572 new missiles, as originally proposed, but a smaller number of missiles in this region. The adherents of this version throw in as an addendum that since the stationing of American Pershing 2s and cruise missiles in Europe is only just beginning this year, these systems will be few in number at first. Thus, the Soviet Union could, without damage to its security, start reducing its own missiles, and the Geneva talks could continue and lead to some level in the systems of this class that would be acceptable to both sides. In the conclusion of this argument we are reminded that successful talks "are always the result of compromise", for the sake of which both sides should budge from their initial maximal positions.

We should note from the very beginning that the Soviet Union has modified its position three times already, while the United States continues to mark time with its "zero" option. But this is neither of paramount importance, nor is it the only important thing. Compromises in negotiations are possible only when they do not affect either party's vital interests; in this particular case, it is their very security which is at stake. At the Geneva talks the Soviet Union has reached the limit of acceptable compromise without holding in reserve its best offer which would be most acceptable to the West, to the last moment. Too little time remains for this otherwise justifiable diplomatic ploy; the entire problem is too important for Europe.

The compromise in the Soviet initiatives lies in their provision for the preservation of equal sublevels in the medium-range nuclear arms systems (the British-French missiles and the US airplanes), although from the point of view of global strategic balance between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization, this gives the United States an indisputable advantage as the leader of the Western system of alliances, since the NATO medium-range weapons stationed in Europe can reach Soviet territory, while comparable Soviet systems in the European regions of the country cannot hit American targets.

But the "intermediate agreement" proposed by Western politicians does not represent a compromise: it demands of the Soviet Union a basic rejection of the substance and principles of equal security. The NATO medium-range capability already present in Europe is not the first-strike instrument that will certainly be provided by Pershing 2s, which will reduce Moscow's early warning time to 6 minutes. The situation will be further complicated by the problem of virtually invulnerable cruise missiles diving under the radar curtain.

As to the calculations according to which "just a few" new missiles will be deployed in Europe at the beginning, they recall the joke, now in vogue among Western observers, that a woman cannot be "slightly pregnant". During the Cuban missile crisis would Washington have agreed to leaving ten Soviet missiles in Cuba? Or even two? No, it would not!

But the placement of the first Pershing 2s on West German territory and the first cruise missiles in Sicily creates a new situation. The Geneva talks on nuclear armaments in Europe would become deprived of the realistic basis upon which they are now being conducted, if only because the Soviet Union would be forced to take immediate measures to restore the balance which had been disturbed in order to ensure for itself and its allies security equal to that of the NATO countries. It is a plain fact that the Americans are difficult to stop once they have gotten started and that they would certainly not be satisfied with "just a little". It has become recently known, for example, that the Pentagon plans to deploy, "after some time", not the 108 Pershing 2 missiles already proposed, but 108 launching pads and three times as many missiles! Give the devil an inch..

The "intermediate agreement" cited above is absolutely unacceptable to the Soviet Union.

'MADNESS OF NUCLEAR ARMS RACE' MUST BE STOPPED

WA011655 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 4 Signed to Press 18 Jan 83 pp 5, 6

["Before It Is Too Late..." by Valentin Falin]

[Text] Lenin foresaw the time when powerful breakthroughs in technology would be applied on such a major scale, in such a destructive way, and with such an energy that war between advanced countries would threaten the very existence of human society. This time has come.

In Defiance of Roosevelt's Legacy

Following World War II, and all that it brought the world's peoples, it seemed natural that all governments should come to the conclusion -- the only possible and correct one -- that the possibility of new wars must be ruled out, once and for all. This idea was not alien to Franklin D. Roosevelt, then President of the United States. But he also warned that the battle for peace after the end of the war might be more difficult than the struggle for victory in World War II. He made this warning because he was aware of the sentiments of the American leadership, and because he understood where anti-communism might lead.

Regrettably, Roosevelt's feelings turned out to be well founded. Harry Truman, his successor as President, told close associates en route to the Potsdam Conference: "If it (the atomic bomb) explodes, I will certainly have a good stick to use against those guys, the Russians and the Japs." And at that time we were still allies of the United States, and it was at war with Japan.

It was precisely then that the US Joint Chiefs of Staff set about drawing up the first plans of war against the USSR, envisaging the use of atomic weapons. In the documents adopted even before the proclamation of the cold war, the USSR was called an enemy which had to be fought, while Directive 1496/2 made provisions for delivering the first strike against the USSR. On November 3, 1945, the Joint Intelligence Committee, in its Intelligence Document 329, listed 20 Soviet cities, including Moscow, that were to be subjected to nuclear bombing. Plans for 1948 envisaged the dropping of 133 atomic bombs on 70 Soviet cities, including eight on Moscow and seven on Leningrad. According to the assessments of American strategy-makers, 6.7 million people would die according to this scenario.

Why the Bomb Did Not Go Off

The leaders of the United States began to question the possibility and advisability of the first use of nuclear weapons against the USSR only after the first Soviet nuclear weapon was put to the test in 1949. Before that the use of nuclear weapons in a conflict was simply taken for granted. The discussion was limited to how, in what way and on which targets the atomic bombs should be dropped, and what had to be done to prevent the Soviet Union from retaliating by attacking US territory.

Now President Reagan asserts that the United States was then in a position to establish world supremacy because it had a monopoly on nuclear arms, but that for moral reasons it chose not to take advantage of the opportunity. The facts testify to the contrary. If the United States did not unleash a nuclear war in that period, this was not for moral or political considerations. The calculations of American military specialists showed that the nuclear potential at their disposal could not guarantee quick success, and the United States was then unprepared for waging a protracted, large-scale war. And beginning with the latter half of the 1950s, the USA had to say goodbye to its relative invulnerability. From then on, military gambles were linked with dangers which the American continent had not known since the age of colonization.

What Is Good for the President...

It was good to believe that the horizon was brightening up when, in May 1972, the document "Basic Principles of Relations Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America" was signed in Moscow. It says, among other things, that the two sides "will proceed from the common determination that in the nuclear age there is no alternative to conducting their mutual relations on the basis of peaceful coexistence". It also said that "differences in ideology and in the social systems of the USSR and the USA are not obstacles to the bilateral development of normal relations based on the principles of sovereignty, equality, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual advantage".

Let us turn to another document -- the 1973 Agreement Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the Prevention of Nuclear War. It says: "The Soviet Union and the United States agree that an objective of their policies is to remove the danger of nuclear war and of the use of nuclear weapons." This document is signed by the leaders of both states.

Compare these documents with the statements of US officials a decade later. The aim of American policy is to leave Marxism-Leninism "on the ash-heap of history", as Ronald Reagan said before the British Parliament in June 1982. The task is to isolate the Soviet Union so that the USA can own the rest of the world. This is the reasoning of John Lehman, US Secretary of the Navy. Administrative guidelines for the development of the US armed forces call for efforts to be directed towards the creation of prerequisites for the struggle to eliminate socialism as a socio-political system.

The Santa Fe Committee is quite close to the incumbent President. It is for Ronald Reagan that the Committee drew up a special report which contains quite a few revelations. "Not peace but war must be considered the norm in international relations." "Detente is dead -- either peace on Soviet terms or the establishment of American power over the entire planet, such is the alternative. It is time to make a decision; there is no time to lose."

And the new administration lost no time when it came to power. During the first two months of its rule it reconsidered and adopted some 400 military programmes. The impression is that the US President and his aides look to the Santa Fe report as if it were their holy of holies; they not only look, but translate its guidelines into the language of practical policies.

Nuclear War Until the 'Victorious End'

Not long ago the Pentagon completed work on the newest "comprehensive strategic plan for a protracted nuclear war" against the USSR. The architects of this plan see the most important condition for attaining ultimate victory in the creation of a capability that would make it possible to destroy, in the initial stage of the conflict, the "enemy's" major political and military leadership centres. The plan is geared to pre-emptive operations on the part of the United States and on large-scale use of first-strike weapons designed to deprive the victim of the possibility of reciprocating with a counterstrike.

The plans of the Pentagon top brass to supplement the present "American triad" (land-based ICBMs, submarine-launched missiles and heavy bombers) with highly accurate strategic medium-range missiles, long-range cruise missiles and weapons either deployed in or controlled from outer space, have been drawn up with the same aim.

In the 70s the USSR and the USA were seeking accord on the limitation of the development of new types of weapons, primarily of the strategic type, and today Washington is trying to force the USSR to continually renew its entire military capability. The idea is to force the USSR to spend ever greater efforts and resources on defence and to open up more and more new fields in the arms race.

A special role is assigned to the USSR nuclear weapons deployed on the territory of other countries in direct proximity to the USSR. The Pershing-2 has a flight time of 4-6 minutes, as opposed to the 25-30 minutes it takes for an ICBM to zero in on its target. In 4-6 minutes it is practically impossible to determine whether the launching was accidental or authorized. This makes it more difficult to move the centres controlling the country's military, political and economic affairs out of the range of the missile.

Of course, for every poison there is an antidote. International security, however, does not benefit from such a tug of war.

New Weapon Systems

The strategic programme made public by President Reagan on October 2, 1981, provides for the buildup of all the components of the US strategic nuclear forces. US Secretary of Defense Weinberger declared that the decision to modernize the strategic forces predetermines, to a great extent, the US strategic policy for many years ahead. Essentially, he said, its scope and importance are virtually unprecedented in the nuclear age.

That they are unprecedented we can say without any stipulation.

Now the Americans are commissioning a new generation of nuclear submarines of the Ohio type. Two have already been launched and there are plans to build a total of 13 of them within 10 years. One Ohio sub equals 10 Polaris subs. And that is not all. When the Trident-1 missiles on the Ohio are replaced with the Trident-2, the sub's combat capability will be doubled. Therefore the United States intends to increase its underwater fleet in the 80s by 260 subs (counted in Polarises). This is the outcome of Washington's non-acceptance of the Soviet proposal calling for the mutual renunciation of the construction of the Ohio class subs by the Americans and of the Typhoon class subs by the Soviet side.

Lately, the MX missile has been written about in great detail. The significance and purpose of the multibillion programme for developing and deploying the MX missiles is to destabilize the strategic situation and stockpile the weapons necessary for the implementation of the aggressive strategy of an all-out power struggle, the concept by which the Pentagon is now being guided.

Plans have also been made to totally re-equip the US bomber force. The development of the B1-B heavy supersonic plane is nearing completion and R & D is going on on the new, so-called invisible Stealth bomber, a plane with a configuration and coating which reduce the reflection of the radar beams, making it easier to penetrate anti-aircraft defences. We might add, by the way, that the bomber's name is already obsolete. Essentially, what is being developed is a high-mobile missile-carrier. While today, the B-52d bombers are being re-equipped to carry 12-20 missiles, the next bomber model will carry 35 or more cruise missiles with a launching range of 2,500 km.

Forecast and Warning

According to published data, the United States expects to supplement its nuclear arsenals with some 12-13,000 long-range cruise missiles in the current decade. R & D work has begun on supersonic cruise missiles. When the administration has this mass of cruise misssiles at its disposal, then one doesn't have to be a seer to predict the emergence of a "zero option" for ICBMs, similar to the "zero option" for the medium-range missiles. Because the medium-range weapons would simply no longer be needed by the Pentagon with its dense network of military bases.

A Russian saying holds that "everything worked out smoothly on paper, but someone forgot the ravines, and now we must cross them". This applies nicely to the case at hand. The hopes entertained by US strategists of achieving military superiority and imposing upon the other side a military confrontation situation beneficial to the Pentagon are illusory. This has never happened in the past, and it will never happen in the future.

The responsibility of government requires the greatest caution in dealing with modern arms. There can be no victor in a nuclear war. Only the politician who has decided to commit suicide and to drag humanity behind him down into the abyss of destruction can start a nuclear war. No doctrines of first, pre-emptive or any other kind of strike will save the aggressor from retribution.

The Crux of the Matter

The task is to make sure that nuclear weapons will never be used. And in order to do that we must expose the falseness of the declarations that a nuclear war allegedly does not have to end in a catastrophe, and that the nuclear holocaust can allegedly spare those who dig themselves a deep enough shelter or hide far enough away.

According to the US President, it is possible to plan the use of tactical nuclear weapons in the battlefield in such a manner that none of the great powers would be forced to press the red button. In other words, it is possible to stage as many new Hiroshimas and Nagasakis as one likes on foreign soil without triggering a retaliatory strike on the United States, provided of course, that a certain amount of caution is observed.

False premises lead to false conclusions. Adventurism is an innate evil in the current US military policy as it is elaborated and implemented today. Washington is inventing some sort of a scenario and rules for a nuclear conflict which are supposed to serve as instructions for others. The riddle remains: on what grounds do the politicians there think that the USSR will try to please the American top brass?

The nuclear threat is, of course, the gravest threat that has ever faced mankind. If the madness of the nuclear arms race is not stopped now, it will destroy mankind. And that is that.

There Is No Reasonable Alternative to Detente

Today the US leadership has launched a crusade not only against the USSR; they are on bad terms with practically every one. The official US policy is aimed at "restoring" American leadership in the world and at restructuring the selfsame world along American lines. In short, we observe a reappearance of imperial ambitions complete with a virtual allergy to peaceful cooperation and equal relations among nations. These are the roots of tensions and the sources of most conflicts.

The political counterrevolution now rampant in the United States, and the negligence with which it treats the international documents it has signed, are no reasons why other governments should reject detente and take up the bellicose ideas which are all the rage now in influential American circles. There was no reasonable alternative to the policy of detente in the past, and there is no alternative now. Sooner or later common sense must penetrate the darkened corridors of power in Washington. One would like to think that this will happen before it is too late.

CRITICISM OF REAGAN ARMS CONTROL POLICY NOTED

LD290539 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 2015 GMT 28 Jan 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] A TASS correspondent reports from Washington:

The Reagan administration's policy on nuclear arms control was subjected to criticism during hearings in the Senate Foreign Relalations Committee. The committee was discussing the nomination of Adelman, former deputy U.S. permanent representative at the UN, to the post of director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. As Senator Perle stressed (?in the committee), a growing number of Americans and inhabitants of Western European countries are coming to the conclusion that the Reagan administration aspires not to establish control over nuclear arms, but rather to step up the arms race, in the mistaken belief that this race can be won. Senator Cranston, in his turn, expressed bewilderment at the fact that President Reagan wants to entrust the directorship of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency to a man who is scornful of the very process of arms limitation. The senator quoted a number of Adelman's statements and his crude attacks on the Soviet-U.S. agreements on limitation of strategic weapons, and called upon the members of the committee to vote against Reagan's nominee. The committee plans to continue the hearings next week.

PRAVDA REVIEW ON BUSH, INF TALKS, OPEC SESSION

PM011201 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[Untitled "International Review" by Yevgeniy Grigoryev]

[Text] January Weather

It is not long since we were greeting the New Year, and already we are seeing out its first month. It has been unusually mild at latitudes which usually have frost in winter -- and vice versa. Much has been written about the whims of the weather because it is always of interest to people. But, of course, man is immeasurably more interested now in the dangerous international climate and worried by the problem of its normalization. Halting the inciters of a new war -- there is no task more important now. The vital interest of all peoples require it.

The last week of January has shown again the direction the winds threatening world peace are blowing. The U.S. President recently delivered his traditional State of the Union message to Congress. Its foreign policy section confirms a program for "U.S. rearmament" unprecedented in terms of dimensions and expenditure. In other words, it is the same arms race course, the same chase after the chimera of military superiority, which is aggravating international tension and facing mankind with the threat of nuclear catastrophe. That is why the overall climate in the world remains complex and unsettled.

At the same time in late January observers are almost unanimous in recording on the horizon broad rays of hope and confidence that the present course of events can be halted and their development channeled into a direction according with the peoples' aspirations. New elements and trends are emerging in international life. For instance, the Paris newspaper LE MATIN, among many other press organs, points to "the growth of antimilitrist sentiments throughout the world as a result of the Soviet Union's promotion of a number of important peace initiatives." This phenomenon is recorded by public opinion polls in literally all European countries. It is reported from the United States that 64 percent of Americans advocate a freeze on nuclear weapons production and the prohibition of tests of these weapons as a first step toward reducing their arsenals. Some 34 senators submitted a similar resolution this week for examination by the Senate.

It looks as though the moral isolation of the champions of the cult of military force is no longer simply a disembodied specter. It is not for nothing that in recent days Washington has been taking emergency propaganda countermeasures and earmarking tens of millions of dollars for the organization of a special campaign to "explain" U.S. nuclear plans with respect to West Europe.

Let us note in passing that certain circles in the United States and allied countries would not be at all averse to reducing the whole business to a "battle of propagandas, instead of seeking practical solutions to the problems which worry the peoples. It is with this mission of "public diplomacy" that U.S. Vice President G. Bush is setting off today to visit West European countries. But the special feature of the situation is that it is becoming increasingly hard to rely on sterile rhetoric. The peoples are demanding that a pertinent reply be given to the specific proposals.

The desire for such an approach is making itself felt markedly this January. The India newspaper THE TIMES sees an impressive factor in "the growth of sentiment throughout the world in favor of constructive USSR-U.S. talks."

The great significance of the new proposals put forward by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and in the Warsaw Pact states' Prague Political Declaration was noted by J. Perez de Cuellar. The UN secretary general expressed the conviction that they are having a positive influence on the creation of a fruitful atmosphere for talks on disarmament problems.

Real Opportunity

On 27 January the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear arms reduction in Europe resumed in Geneva. This problem is becoming increasingly topical and acute, for this year is a decisive one on this plane.

It is well known that in January a sort of "countdown" began to the time at the end of this year when the United States intends to begin deploying its new medium-range nuclear missile weapons in a number of European NATO countries. This attempt to disrupt the global and regional balance in favor of the United States and NATO is fraught with a mortal danger to peace. Millions and millions of people are profoundly alarmed by the "prospect" foisted on them from across the ocean.

But even more important is the fact that there is now a tangible, practical possibility of averting the threat looming over our continent and over the entire world. This opportunity is opened up by the Soviet Union's constructive new proposals for the reduction of nuclear arms in Europe. As the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session noted, they are meeting with an increasingly widespread response in the European countries. These proposals are rightly assessed as giving a real opportunity for achieving a mutually acceptable accord which would avert a new round of the arms race and lead to a reduction of the danger of war.

The Soviet Union has taken a very big step in the attempt to facilitate the solution of one of the fundamental questions of war and peace. In particular it has suggested that the two sides reduce their medium-range armaments (missiles and aircraft carrying nuclear weapons) by over two-thirds. There would be no Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles whatever confronting each other in the European zone, and the USSR would retain only exactly the same number of missiles as Britain and France possess. In terms of aircraft too, our country is in favor of total equality at a considerably lower level than at present. In brief, the USSR does not want to have a single missile or a single aircraft more than the NATO countries in the European region.

The Soviet proposals have been rigorously checked against the principle of parity and equal security. Their implementation would lift a heavy burden from Europe. The Soviet Union urges that this clear and just accord be embarked on and that a truly historic opportunity should not be let slip while it is still available. And this largely defines the peoples' feelings and expectations in connection with the new round of the Soviet-U.S. talks.

"The resumption of the Geneva talks," the French newspaper L'HUMANITE writes, "is taking place in a situation utterly different from the one in which they began in November 1981. This is due on the one hand to the change in the West European and U.S. public attitude to the crucial element of the problem and, on the other, to the Soviet Union's recent proposals in the sphere of arms limitation and the reduction of nuclear weapons. These proposals have confirmed the possibility of attaining a definite compromise which would improve relations between the two blocs and could lead to a gradual reduction of the total quantity of weapons stockpiled on the continent."

The appeal adopted recently at a meeting of representatives of NATO countries' socialist and social democratic youth organizations is noteworthy. Its authors reject the NATO decision taken in December 1979 to manufacture and deploy 572 new medium-range missiles and note that "the USSR has made a constructive proposal on the question of nuclear weapons in Europe."

Naturally, eyes are now turned toward the United States. Public, political and even government circles in the West are waiting, in the words of Bonn's GENERAL-ANZEIGER, for Washington to "demonstrate greater flexibility at the talks and overcome the stance of those who advocate a hard line." But nothing has changed. The Western press reports that the American representative in Geneva "is currently instructed to secure the 'zero option.'" Even while talking -- with one eye on the West Europeans -- about their readiness to discuss "other proposals" too, the Washington administration's representatives add "without departing from the 'zero option.'" Yet that notorious "option," which amounts to a demand for unilateral disarmament by the USSR, is what is creating an impasse at the talks.

The American press was forced to note an "erosion of West European support for Reagan's original proposal." P. Warnke, former director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, warns that clinging stubbornly to the "zero option" will only "create the suspicion that America is not serious about establishing nuclear arms control."

However, the "crisis of arguments" is not only affecting the fixed Washington and NATO position. It can also be felt in attempts to resist the logic of the new Soviet proposals. The polemic against them amounts substantially to the thesis that British that British and French missile forces cannot be taken into account in the overall balance of NATO's medium-range weapons, since the relevent arsenal of those two bloc members is under national command. But life itself refutes this fabrication.

As the American observer T. Wicker writes, in its nuclear strategy the West has always relied "on the independent British and French nuclear forces too." As for the "British deterrent," THE TIMES admits, this is "integrated in NATO and targeted taking account of the targets which fall within the sphere of operation of the U.S. deterrent." Well, toward what "sphere of operation" can the powerful new French S-3 missiles on the Albion Plateau be targeted, for instance, when their range as AFP reports, is 3,500 km? Italian Socialist Party representative P. Vittorelli writes in the newspaper AVANTI: "It is hard to persuade the USSR to regard the national deterrence forces of the two aforementioned Western countries as something which has nothing to do with the West's general nuclear deterrent policy as a whole." True enough -- impossible, indeed, to persuade anyone who does not close their eyes to the facts.

Another NATO "idea" provides further fuel for the polemical fire. Its essence is that, if the "zero option" has to be given up as a bad job, then let the United States at least be able to deploy some of the new nuclear missiles on European soil. By hook or by crook, as the saying goes. And the aim is the same: to change the balance of forces in favor of the United States and NATO.

The vital interests of peace in Europe cannot be combined with the nuclear arms buildup. On the contrary, these arsenals need to be reduced. The future talks in Geneva will show whether or not the potential which exists for this will be utilized. It is up to the United States.

To promote the resolution of the urgent task is the dictate of reason not only for the direct participants in the talks, but for all interested parties. It is obvious, for instance, that the FRG state leadership could make its contribution to ensuring that the West European NATO countries do not become a zone of intensive stockpiling of American nculear weapons. The activeness of the mass antiwar movement is growing.

As for the Soviet Union, its position is clear: it is for a just agreement, for a lowering of the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe in every way. And this is indicated not only by its Geneva proposals, but also by the support expressed by the Soviet Union the other day for the Swedish initiative on creating a zone free of nuclear battlefield weapons in Europe.

Around OPEC

The extraordinary session of the OPEC states gave rise to some relatively lively commentaries in the Western press. The point is that at this session, held in Geneva, they were unable to arrive at a unified stance which all would accept. Most of the participants reached agreement in principle on the overall volume of "black gold" to be extracted this year, the quotas for production by each individual country and the pricing structure for their energy output. But Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and certain other Persian Gulf countries adopted a special position, refusing to sign the general agreement. All this, AFP believes, "marks the start of a period of even greater uncertainty than the uncertainty that has prevailed in the world oil markets in recent months."

Contradictions within OPEC had emerged even earlier, including some based on objective factors. After all, the 13 countries belonging to the organization are on different continents. They differ in their state system, level of development and political orientation. But the present growth, as certain Western commentators put it, in "political tension" within OPEC results mainly from such phenomena as the serious effects of the capitalist crisis on the oil-extracting countries and pressure and intrigues against them by transnational corporations and imperialism.

The United States and its allies, using various levers, have recently toughened their policy of artificially creating an oil surplus on the world capitalist market. Thus there was a fall in prices for the output of the oil states, above all the OPEC countries, which were forced to cut production. Whereas in 1979 they extracted 32 million barrels (a barrel is 159 liters) of oil a day, now the figure is only some 18 million barrels. Naturally, this has affected the OPEC countries' revenue. At the same time the goods they purchase from capitalist countries have become considerably more costly. The resulting discrepancy has been particularly damaging to those OPEC countries for which oil is virtually the only source of resources for national economic development.

As a result competition among oil-producing countries and the struggle for extraction quotas and more advantageous prices have become more acute. Add to this the tactics of setting some countries against others, used widely and continually by Washington, and the present difficulties in mutual relations between the OPEC countries are hardly surprising.

But it must also be noted that people in the West are rubbing their hands in satisfaction to see the lack of consensus in OPEC. "Good news for America," THE WASHINGTON POST hurries to proclaim. But it eventually remembers: "If the oil price starts falling and OPEC collapses, people in the developing countries along the equator and also in the Near East will start looking for a 'villian' to blame."

Well, the transnational corporations and capitalist countries will certainly not be able to wash their hands of it. Life shows once again how incompatable are the aspirations of imperialism and the interests of the developing states' peoples.

CENTRAL COMMAND SEEN AS THREAT TO WORLD PEACE

U.S. Focus on Indian Ocean

LD012202 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Farid Seyful-Mulyukov commentary from the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Hello comrades. There are dozens of independent countries on the shores of the Indian Ocean.

The Soviet Union maintains relations of friendship and cooperation with many of them. But there is something else that needs stressing: The Indian Ocean links the western and Far East ports of the Soviet Union which, like many other states, has an interest in seeing that the waters of that ocean are plied by peaceful ships. Thus the question arises of the Soviet proposals for maintaining peace and security in the Indian Ocean. These proposals sound particularly timely today.

General Rogers, commander in chief of NATO forces in Europe, deciphered the meaning of the U.S.'s miltiaristic preparations in the Indian Ocean in the following manner: A new world war, if it is to start, he declared, will break out along the line joining the Near East, Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. The Reagan administration is thus preparing bridgeheads throughout this region, which has been declared by Washington to be the third central strategic zone along with West Europe and the Far East. The United States is pushing ahead with military-strategic domination of the Indian Ocean. The Pentagon regards the littoral countries not as sovereign states, but as theaters of military operations in which nuclear weapons might be used.

The American monopolies need the oil from the Persian Gulf, nonferrous metals from Southeast Asia, uranium from South Africa; and the Indian Ocean is declared to be a sphere of vital U.S. interests. This region has been included in the operational zone of the new U.S. military command, Centcom, to which the Rapid Deployment Forces are subordinated. The network of U.S. bases and support stations in the region will serve as the operational bridgehead for these invasion forces. The waters of the Indian Ocean from the shores of Africa as far as Australia are plied by nuclear aircraft carriers and submarines. In the very center of the ocean, on the island of Diego Garcia, a large U.S. nuclear missile base has been established. There are another 25 such installations in other countries of the region.

Domination of the sea routes, of the policy of sovereign countries and their natural resources -- such is Washington's global aim. That is why it is sabotaging the idea of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and the convening of an international conference on this quesiton. Unilaterally the United States has broken off the talks with the USSR on limiting and subsequently reducing military activity in the Indian Ocean. The Reagan administration is trying to implement as fast as possible, U.S. strategic consolidation in the Indian Ocean and the surrounding countries, and this will be a direct threat to the countries of the vast region and to the cause of world peace.

In many states of the Nonaligned Movement the struggle is growing against the U.S. militaristic preparations in the Indian Ocean. This struggle is actively supported by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which advocate that the Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace and tranquillity, not an area of confrontation.

U.S. 'Military Patronage'

LD250750 Moscow TASS in English 0724 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 25 TASS -- "The philosophy of international brigandage is so deeply rooted in the American political doctrine, that its authors no longer hear warning alarm signals, when they are trying to break into somebody else's home," Nikolay Polyanov points out in his commentary in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA on the setting up of the so-called Centcom -- the central military command of the USA embracing the territory of 19 states, which lie on the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea, the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

The "Central Command" began functioning since January 1 this year, and American Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has already declared that the militarists and their high-ranking bosses at the U.S. companies are most keenly interested in the oil fields inside that vast strategic circumference mapped out by Washington.

"Washington once broke off the Soviet-American dialogue on limiting military activities in the Indian Ocean," the author recalls. "It stubbornly refuses to discuss the Soviet Union's constructive initiatives aimed at ensuring peace and security in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. It won't listen to anybody recalling the persistent demand of the United Nations Organization for turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. Now the hidden designs of American diplomacy in that part of the world increasingly clearly manifest themselves: American diplomacy has been gradually paving the ground for a new "central military command".

"Thus, the outlines of the new American venture with the Centcom become clearly visible as if in a X-ray unit", the commentator points out. "Officially nineteen states are offered their American military patronage", although nobody has ever asked for it, and an attempt is being made to establish control over the countries lying at a distance of thousands of miles from the shores of the United States, while a considerable part of the globe is simple declared a 'vital sphere' for the Americans."

Indian, Egyptian Protests

LD311454 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] New Delhi January 31 TASS -- A campaign against U.S. machinations in the Indian Ocean, against the escalation of the American military might in the region is mounting in India. Mass rallies, meetings and demonstrations of protest are held in all major cities of the country.

Participants in the protest actions single out with particular concern the Pentagon's recent decision to set up its central military command (Centcom) to direct operations of the Rapid Deployment Forces in the region of the Persian Gulf and Southwest Asia.

The All-India Peace and Solidarity Organization has issued a special statement in connection with the establishment of the Centcom. The statement stresses that the Pentagon's decision is a rude challenge made by the United States on the eve of the opening of the non-aligned summit conference in New Delhi. The United States is trying to blackmail the participants in the forthcoming conference, the statement stresses.

Cairo January 31 TASS -- The U.S. recent decision to set up its Central Command (Centcom), is described by (Ahmed Hamrush) [TASS spelling], general secretary of the Egyptian National Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, as gross interference in the internal affairs of independent states in the Near and Middle East. As flagrant encroachment of their sovereignty and independence, Washington's fresh militarist action, he told TASS, vividly exposes once again the aggressive and hegemonistic character of the foreign policy of the United States which is hostile to the genuine interests of the peoples on earth. By proclaiming the establishment of the Central Command, to cover the territory of 19 countries, the White House demonstrated its unwillingness to reckon with the will of nations and peoples, showed its full disregard for their sovereign rights and national independence.

It is perfectly clear, the general secretary of the Egyptian solidarity committee said, that the aim of the establishment of the new American command for interventionist Rapid Deployment Forces is to prepare aggression and armed intervention in the affairs of free nations. He pointed out that this decision jeopardises the vast area of the Near and Middle East and poses a real threat to peoples in Arab countries, including Egypt. The creation of the Central Command, as well as other aggressive steps by the White House run counter to the hopes and aspirations of the peoples committed to peace, national independence and social progress and which reject American diktat. It is, therefore, the duty of all national patriotic and peace-loving forces in Asia and Africa to give a befitting rebuff to Washington's dangerous designs which threaten not only security in the Middle and Near East and the Indian Ocean, but also peace throughout the world (Ahmed Hamrush) stressed.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISTS CLOSE LUANDA SESSION

LD300606 Moscow TASS in English 0602 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Luanda January 30 TASS -- A session of the Presidium of the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) has closed in the capital of the People's Republic of Angola. Representatives of journalists' organizations from more than 30 countries discussed the tasks of democratic journalism in promoting peace, mutual understanding and building confidence between people, admitted new organizations to the IOJ and awarded the IOJ prizes for 1982.

In the course of the session of the IOJ Presidium, its participants strongly condemned the aggressive policy of the USA and the Republic of South Africa aimed at destabilizing the situation in Angola and other "frontline states".

The IOJ Presidium has issued an appeal to all peoples for repelling the aggressive ambitions of the USA against Honduras, Costa Rica and other Caribbean countries.

The participants in the session expressed solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of Palestine, Lebanon and Syria for freedom and social progress, condemned Israel's barbaric aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples as well as the striving of the USA to establish its control over the Middle East.

GEORGE BUSH ARRIVES ON NETHERLANDS LEG OF TOUR

'Propaganda Show'

LD011714 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] The Hague February 1 TASS -- U.S. Vice-President George Bush, who is touring Western Europe, arrived in Holland today. He will hold talks with the Dutch prime minister and foreign minister. Their conversations will center on the problem of the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe. George Bush's trip, made at a time when another increase in the U.S. military budget has just been announced in Washington, is assessed here as well as in other Western European countries as nothing more than a propaganda show to convince the Europeans of the United States' "peaceful disposition" and its "striving" for talks.

U.S. 'Perturbed' at Netherlands

LD012058 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] The U.S. vice president, George Bush, has arrived in the Netherlands. He is touring West European nations hopefully to draw up support for the plans for deploying on the continent new American nuclear missiles. Observers note that the U.S. Administration has been perturbed by the position of the Netherlands on the deployment of 48 cruise missiles on its territory by the end of the year. The Dutch parliament has rejected the dangerous plans. They have drawn energetic protests in the country and Europe as a whole.

Mission 'Will Not Be Easy'

LD020051 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1945 GMT 1 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush's tour of West European countries is continuing. After his visits to the FRG and West Berlin, he headed for the Netherlands. Bush arrived in the Hague today. Observers feel that the Washington's emissary's mission in that country will not be easy. Netherlands public opinion more and more actively opposes the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe.

TASS Assessment

LD021401 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1230 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] The Hague, 2 Feb (TASS) -- Talks have taken place here between U.S. Vice President G. Bush, who is making a trip to a number of West European countries, and R. Lubbers, prime minister of the Netherlands and other members of the government. In the course of these conversations, G. Bush once again attempted to bring pressure to bear with the aim of obtaining from the Netherlands Cabinet official agreement to the deployment in the country of 48 American cruise missiles in accordance with the NATO Council decision of 1979. Because of the powerful protest movement in the country against these plans, the Netherlands, having agreed in principle to sign the NATO decision, has so far not given its official agreement to the deployment of new medium-range nuclear missiles, making it dependent upon the course of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva. Moreover, the country's parliament has twice voted against the deployment of cruise missiles.

G. Bush, following Gen B. Rogers, supreme commander of the NATO Armed Forces in Europe, and NATO Secretary General J. Luns, who earlier visited the Netherlands, also put pressure on the country's statesmen and politicians to get them to support the U.S. plan. At an official dinner held yesterday, he again went on about the "Soviet military threat." He also plugged in all possible ways the U.S. "zero option" for the solution of the problem of reducing nuclear armaments in Europe, which is unacceptable to the USSR since it leads to the one-sided disarmament of the Soviet Union.

As local observers stress, G. Bush's utterances received a guarded reaction from Netherlands public opinion. A representative of the Netherlands Communist Party called his trip "a smokescreen behind which Washington plans to conceal the buildup of armaments in Europe."

[K. de Vries, a representative of the Labor Party, described the West European journey of the U.S. vice president as "a propaganda trick which it is not very difficult to see through." He stressed the need for the "independent" nuclear arsenals of Britain and France to be taken into account during the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva.

As ANP [GENERAL NETHERLANDS PRESS AGENCY] notes, the appeal by U.S. President R. Reagan "to the peoples of Europe," which was read by G. Bush in West Berlin and which he is publicizing in every possible way in the course of his trip, "has made no impression in The Hague." A representative of the Netherlands Foreign Ministry described it "as an obvious publicity action undertaken over the heads of the participants in the Geneva talks."

L. Frinking, a representative of the parliamentary faction of the ruling Christian Democrat Appeal Party, stated that there is nothing new in the proposals contained in Reagan's appeal. He said: "It is merely a repetition of the 'zero option,' and there is no reason for Bush to travel to West Berlin to pronounce it. The proposal by the American Administration will not lead to progress at the talks in Geneva. For that, really new proposals are necessary.

OBSERVERS COMMENT ON VISIT TO WEST GERMANY

Impact on FRG Elections

LD011537 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Commentary by Eduard Mnatskanov, Soviet television and radio political observer, from the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The visit by Bush to the countries of Western Europe is being described as the most difficult mission he has ever undertaken, and this is evidently so. President Reagan sent his deputy to Western Europe in the first place in order to rebuff the USSR peace offensive, as the U.S. press frankly writes. This task is an extremely difficult one if one takes into consideration the enormous influence the new peace initiatives of the USSR and the entire socialist community -- announced in the report by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov and in the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact countries -- are having upon the European public.

They are clearly feeling nervous in Washington. This is indicated by the conflicting nature of the tasks Bush has been given. As THE WASHINGTON POST writes, he must convince the West Europeans of the peace-loving nature of the U.S. Administration, that it is also striving toward the achievement of an equal and balanced agreement on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe. Yet how is this to be accomplished if the U.S. vice president has brought no new ideas or proposals to Europe, if all he wants is to rally the NATO partners on the basis of Reagan's same old zero option, which, as is known, excludes an equal and balanced agreement?

Bush began his visit in the FRG as if to stress the special significance this country has for Washington. On 6 March parliamentary elections are to take place in West Germany. The main issue in the preelection struggle is the question of whether or not there are to be U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles on West German soil. What did the U.S. visitor seek on the Rhine? On the one hand, clearly interfering in the internal affairs of a sovereign state, he stressed in every possible way his government's desire to assist the Christian Democratic Union and Chancellor Kohl in the election struggle -- as is known, they support the U.S. zero option. On the other hand, support of this kind is the very thing that encourages a weakening in the position of the CDU and Kohl because a majority of the FRG population resolutely rejects the deployment of U.S. Eurostrategic missiles in their own home.

Did Bush's talks in Bonn help the chancellor or, on the contrary, did they render him a disservice? This question is now being discussed by the entire West German press. Thus, in setting off for Western Europe, the U.S. vice president has undertaken a truly difficult mission, and a thankless one, for this mission pursues a purpose that has nothing in common with the interests of the peace and security of the European countries.

Results of U.S. Stand

LD020024 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 1 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] Two eminent members of the American Administration, Vice President Bush and Secretary of State Shultz, are, on Reagan's instructions, fulfilling what is probably the most delicate mission of Washington's foreign policy -- Bush to West Europe and Shultz to Asia. As Western observers note, in both instances it is their job to propound a policy which is encountering increasing criticism and even opposition from America's friends. We shall report on Shultz's trip to Japan and other Asian countries in the next issue of our program. But now about Bush's trip to West Europe.

Following his visit to Bonn and talks with West German figures, Bush turned up in West Berlin where he read Reagan's message to the peoples of Europe at the mayor's banquet. The full text of this address has not yet come in, but according to the reports of Western news agencies, this address and Bush's statement at a press conference do not contain any essentially new ideas or proposals in the field of nuclear arms limitation in Europe. Washington continues to demand unilateral concessions from the Soviet Union. The trip of Washington's emissary, L'HUMANITE writes today, pursues a single objective -- to force the U.S. NATO allies to continue to support in every way the position of the Reagan administration on the problem of medium-range nuclear missiles. It is precisely this stand of Washington which boils down to the zero option and which has led to the fact that no progress has yet been achieved at the Geneva talks.

It is reported from Geneva that the USSR and U.S. delegations held a plenary session there today at the talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe. While these talks are going on, the Reagan administration is talking loudly about the sincerity of its intentions, speaking about flexibility in its approach to arms control, but in fact it is the same old unacceptable zero option, a desire to appease its allies, to lessen the influence of the Soviet Union's peace initiatives on public opinion in the West European countries, and to take the wind out of the sails of the antiwar movement. As THE LONDON TIMES writes today, Bush's pronouncements in Bonn point to the fact that the Reagan administration has decided not to make any concessions to the growing antiwar movement in West Europe. And this was how Bush was welcomed in West Berlin [scenes of antiwar demonstrators] -- antiwar demonstrations and anti-American slogans: "cruise missiles and Pershings threaten our security."

GENEVA TALKS SEEN AS 'POINT IN QUESTION'

WA021503 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 4 Signed to Press 18 Jan 83 p 6

["Before Geneva" by Gennady Gerasimov]

[Text] US Vice-President George Bush is going to Western Europe.

The success or failure of his mission will depend on whether he is going to listen or he is going to speak.

The point in question will be the Soviet-American talks that will be resumed in Geneva on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments and on medium-range nuclear weapons.

If Bush is going to listen, he will bring back to Washington an eyewitness account of the active concern of West European governments, to say nothing of the public, for the diplomatic initiatives that sounded from Moscow and Prague and were named a "peace offensive".

The Pope made an appeal for early progress at the disarmament talks. He considers that "the parties involved must make an equal effort", with a view to achieving success at the talks. West European newspapers hint at what exactly the American visitor should be told. They recommend that the Reagan administration be told that unless it takes a more constructive stand at the talks, the Europeans will cease to support it.

Only recently Western Europe was visited by Secretary of State George Shultz. TIME magazine (December 27, 1982) reported, "According to the Pentagon, W. European support for Reagan's zero option was still 'rock solid', and a senior State Department official travelling with Shultz noted that "not a single European pressed for altering 'the zero option'."

A month later, this report is hopelessly obsolete. The "solid rock" is all in cracks. Some West European politicians have come forward with heretical ideas about the possibility of some departure from the "zero option". Bush has something to listen to in Europe.

By all appearances, however, Bush is going to Europe not to listen but to speak. Once, at a congress of the American Legion, explaining the administration's struggle against the gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe, Bush said:

We hear a lot of protests from our European allies.... Well, ladies and gentlemen, excuse us. The USA is the leader of the free world, and under the present administration we are beginning to act accordingly.

Most likely, forgetting about the fiasco with the gas pipeline, Bush will continue to "act accordingly".

What can he say? European government circles do not lose hope of hearing something new. The press has reported on the disagreements in the administration over what to answer Moscow and how, and written about the disarray, waverings, and backstage struggle. The President himself engages in denials, saying that "stories alleging disarray are not based on facts". At the same time he dismisses Eugene Rostow from the post of director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency after he declared that he did not rule out adopting a new position at the talks in the event the "zero option" proved clearly hopeless. Horses are not changed at the crossing and Rostow's departure is everywhere assessed as a kind of "moratorium" on American diplomatic initiatives.

Another fact showing where the winds in Washington are blowing was an unseemly episode with Reagan's letter to Representative Jack Kemp, in which the author threatened to cancel the Geneva talks unless the administration got the MX missile. This case is quite a good commentary on the President's words that the USA takes a serious and businesslike attitude to the talks. It makes the Washington scale of priorities obvious: missiles come first.

So far there are no indications that Europeans will hear anything new from Bush. As THE WASHINGTON POST put it, Reagan "had to call on Bush to become a human umbrella between him and the peace initiatives that Soviet leader Yuriy V. Andropov has been dropping like yellow rain on the White House". Having sized up the situation, the paper concludes that "Bush's mission is impossible".

It may well be expected, however, that in his diplomatic luggage Bush will bring the theory of the advantage of being "firm" at the talks with the "Russians". According to this theory, American immobility gives rise to Soviet mobility, American firmness to Soviet pliability, and American "complementary armament" to Soviet disarmament. As Bush put it, the "Soviet attitudes will be a direct function of the reality of (missile) deployment". This theory ignores the above-mentioned call of the pope for "an equal effort" of the sides, but also the actual theory of the talks, according to which talks imply the mutual search for a compromise. It unwarrantedly presupposes the existence of a psychological weakness on the other side and is therefore fraught with the threat of foiling the talks. Is this not the aim of Washington, which has entered into the talks unwillingly and with delay? As Michael Getler said in THE WASHINGTON POST, at present there is not a single person in the top echelon of the administration who would persistently be in favour of reaching a compromise with the USSR.

The moment of truth is coming nearer on this important question.

WEINBERGER PRESENTS ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

LD011549 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 1 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev reports:

The United States is speeding up to the utmost its military preparations which is clearly seen from an annual report by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger submitted today to the U.S. Congress.

The document sets out concrete measures aimed at further "rearming of America," a large-scale programme of the build up, above all of strategic nuclear armaments, that has been worked out by the Reagan administration. The programme is planned for the 1984-1988 financial years and its cost is estimated at nearly 2,000 billion dollars. From the present level of 260 billion dollars, the annual allocations to the Pentagon will rise to 425 billion dollars by the end of the five-year period.

The Pentagon's chief tries to justify a new stage in the unprecedented arms race by hackneyed references to the mythical menace from the East, to the alleged America's military vulnerability.

However, it follows from his pronouncements that it is precisely the United States that is striving in any way to ensure its military supremacy for the sake of gratifying its imperial ambitions. Weinberger admits that this programme is based on the concepts and doctrines by which Washington has long been guiding itself and which, as is known, pursue far-reaching aggressive aims.

The report, specifically, clearly manifests the striving of the Reagan administration to act from the positions of strength, to "project the United States military power" in any area of the world, to prepare for a protracted war against the Soviet Union with the hope of winning it. Weinberger rejects categorically as unacceptable for the United States the ideas of assuming the commitment to keep from a first use of nuclear weapons and of freezing nuclear arsenals.

The report confirms Washington's intention to speed up the preparation for chemical war.

Going by the report, the concrete manifestation of Washington's global ambitions is the fact that the U.S. military intends to widen considerably the functions of the gendarme Rapid Deployment Force. The force, that has been initially set up for conducting interventionist operations mainly in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East, might now be needed by the United States. As Weinberger said outright, not only in the Middle East but also in Africa, Central and South America, the Caribbean or any other area of the world for the protection of the "U.S. vital interests."

U.S. CRITICISM OF REAGAN'S DRAFT BUDGET CITED

LD020612 Moscow TASS in English 2324 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 1 TASS -- The U.S. press and many U.S. politicians from both parties criticise the draft budget, submitted by the administration, and accuse it of ignoring the needs of broad popular masses of that country and upholding only the interests of the Pentagon, whose budget is to be increased in the coming fiscal year to reach 280-500 million dollars.

WASHINGTON POST points out today that the so-called "freezing" of the programs designed to help the poor, proposed by Reagan, will actually mean their further reduction by 14 percent altogether. The allocations for the Pentagon in the draft budget go up by exactly the same figure.

Acting at one with it is a ministerial level general planning group which also includes heads of the State Department and the Pentagon.

65 million dollars is to be set aside for financing numerous anti-communist functions within the framework of the "crusade" in 1984. This does not include funds for radio subversion.

The newspaper cites as a typical example of active interference in the domestic affairs of socialist countries a "Conference on Problems of Democratisation in Communist Countries" held at the State Department in October 1982. The U.S. diplomatic department for the first time openly gathered, subsidised and encouraged to hostile actions against countries with which Washington maintains normal diplomatic relations former citizens of these countries, like the criminal Bukovskiy, expelled from the Soviet Union. The "conference" paid main attention to the problem of coordinating anti-socialist forces outside and inside socialist countries.

Specialists on political plots will investigate at an international meeting, sponsored by the U.S. Supreme Court, in Washington in spring this year, possibilities of "transition to democratic regimes" in socialist countries. The European Council is preparing a similar function.

These functions involved special services in NATO countries, for instance, the German political fund (West Germany) known for its anti-communism, and propaganda services of international Zionism.

Such is the material, political and ideological basis of Reagan's "crusade". It is obvious that it represents a long-term subversive operation, hostile to socialist countries, which has been developed, financed and directed by U.S. state bodies, including the White House.

"By proclaiming the programme of 'encouraging democratic changes,' which means in fact attempts to export counter-revolution to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the U.S. Administration violates the letter and spirit of the basic documents regulating Soviet-American relations."

'STRATEGY OF U.S. IMPERIALISM' ANALYZED

LD012345 Moscow TASS in English 2322 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS -- The aim of the global strategy of U.S. imperialism is to turn vast areas of the planet into springboards of aggressions against socialist countries, young national states and national liberation forces, PRAVDA's news analyst Vitaliy Korionov writes in this newspaper. He points out that these plans are fraught with especially serious threat for universal peace, for the very existence of mankind, because they are being worked out in conditions of extremely dangerous levels of military confrontation.

The news analyst underlines that American imperialists have not given up their dream to achieve world domination. The policy aimed at carrying out their hegemonistic designs is covered by the alleged need to restore "U.S. leading position". The unrestrained arms race, the striving to extend the presence of the Pentagon to all the parts of the globe, the expansion of the world-wide system of military bases and strongholds are covered by the slogan about the "protection of U.S. interests". The zone of these "interests" actually embraces the whole world.

Vitaliy Korionov points out that U.S. militarists do not confine themselves already to the creation of separate "theatres of operations". They pass over to setting up a single network of springboards of aggressions covering the whole continents and oceans.

However, the new claimants to world domination overestimate their possibilities, the author stresses.

They are unable to determine the main direction of development of the present-day world. The countries of the socialist community, the international communist and workers' movement, the forces formed as a result of the national liberation struggle -- these are the motive forces of our epoch. As for the Soviet Union, its policy in the international arena remains invariable. It enjoys the growing support of hundreds of millions of people in the world. It is regarded by them as a reasonable and real way to the future, which will never know a nuclear catastrophe.

U.S. PLANS FOR MILITARIZATION OF SPACE OUTLINED

LD290433 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2300 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 29 Jan (TASS) -- "The captains of U.S. military policy are trying to set their sights upon the entire globe. Such a policy is as dangerous as it is hopeless." SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes about this in a comment on the report by the American association of arms control supporters, stating that Washington intends to bring its direct expenditure on military preparations in space up to $11,000 million by 1987.

The American brass hats, the article states, plan to put into space the most advanced, principally new, and therefore exceptionally dangerous forms of military technology. It is hoped to have laser stations in space by 1990. In an interview for the propaganda film "Count-Down for Survival" [russ otschet vyzhivaniya] C. Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary, blabbed that in the future the task will be to equip American satellites with missiles. In 1987 the Pentagon will arm itself with the first "killer-satellites."

A lot has been written recently about the possibilities of using space, especially in connection with the manned flights of the Columbia craft in the space shuttle program, the article says. In 1984 the fourth spacecraft of this series will leave the factories. The space shuttle is, if you please, the only NASA project whose allocations were not cut. The secret is simple. The pride of U.S. aeronautics, the Columbia spacecraft, graphically speaking, is called for military service, the newspaper comments. It has become known that at least one third of the 68 planned flights of the space shuttle will be carried out in the Pentagon's interests.

According to admissions by the U.S. press, the Pentagon is preparing to deploy 125 special intercontinental Minuteman-2 missiles armed with nuclear warheads in orbits of up to 200 miles high.

EIGHT STATES SUPPORT NUCLEAR ARMS FREEZE

LD020630 Moscow TASS in English 2210 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 1 TASS -- Delegations of American states, whose population voted on November 2, 1982, in support of the demand of mutual freezing of nuclear armaments of the U.S. and the USSR, arrived in Washington today to submit official results of the voting to the Congress and to the U.S. Administration.

As is known, residents of eight out of nine states and of 26 out of 29 constituencies, where special referendums on this question were held on November 2, favoured mutual and verifiable freezing of nuclear arsenals of the U.S. and the USSR. Although we live in various parts of the U.S. and are people of various professions and views, we are united by the common hope and goal -- to make nuclear freeze a reality, Michael Connolly, head of the Massachusetts delegation, said at a ceremony in the capitol. The American people clearly expressed their will on November 2 by appealing to common sense in the foreign policy course. This appeal should be heeded in Washington.

TASS CITES BOOK ON NUCLEAR WAR 'FOLLY'

LD020918 Moscow TASS in English 0804 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] London February 2 TASS -- The most immediate problem for the human race is that of the piling up of immense arsenals of nuclear weapons in the arms race. On this, all thoughtful people are agreed, is said in the book Defended to Death, prepared by Martin Ryle, John Barber, Pat Bateson, John Griffiths, Andrew Collins and others.

Specific defence contractors on the West Coast of the U.S., the region which has for so long helped foster President Reagan's political ambitions, write the authors of the book, will certainly benefit from the arms build up. But Reagan's military, economic, and social policies taken together fail to address the underlying problems of the U.S. national economy, may well be socially disruptive in the U.S., and are likely to be highly destabilizing for the world economy as a whole -- quite apart from the real risk of producing a nuclear holocaust.

We have already experienced some of the disruptive effects of these policies, both on the U.S. economy and on the world economy.

In the U.S., this is already (1982) having the effect of deepening the recession.

The fact is that the use of even tactical nuclear weapons in Europe would lead to immense damage and enormous loss of life. Europe is so densely populated that any nuclear attack, even though aimed at military forces, would certainly also affect cities. A policy which embraces the possibility that nuclear conflict could be confined to Europe might seem to be in the interests of the USA (at least until the fall-out arrived), but is nothing but folly for Europeans.

It has been a major task for far in this book to argue in detail that to believe that pre-nuclear concepts of military strength and security apply to the nuclear age is a tragic and fundamental misunderstanding of that age's nature.

We have stressed the prime urgency of a start on the immediate transformation of all NATO ground forces in Europe into a non-nuclear form, associated with an agreement to repudiate the first use of any nuclear device, an agreement which the East has repeatedly requested and which has been repeatedly refused.

A formal renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons should be immediately signed with the Warsaw Pact nations. This should be followed by establishment of a European nuclear free zone from Poland to Portugal.

This action is directed at medium-range systems, is stressed in the book in part.

CIA LINKED WITH MURDER OF MORO, OTHER LEADERS

LD010007 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] The trial of a group of terrorists charged with murdering Aldo Moro, Italian Christian Democratic leader, ended in Rome a few days ago. Our commentator Leonid Krichevskiy says:

Let us begin by reminding our readers of a few facts. Aldo Moro was kidnapped by unknown persons on 16 March 1978; his body was found nearly 2 months later in a car left by the terrorists in the center of the Italian capital. The investigation lasted nearly 4 years; the police succeeded in arresting a group of bandits from the ranks of the Red Brigade subversive organization, who played a direct role in the kidnapping and murder of Aldo Moro.

One of the Red Brigade ringleaders, Prospero Galinari, openly stated before the court that Aldo Moro was murdered because he was striving to create the ruling majority in Italy with the participation of the Communists. Italian papers have extensively commented on this statement by Prospero Galinari, for instance, [word indistinct] stresses: This is the first time that the Red Brigade ringleaders have stated so clearly that their aims coincide with the [word indistinct] plans of certain political circles. In this connection, the paper goes on, the threats that Aldo Moro received from the U.S. several times must be taken into account.

It should be noted that immediately after the murder of Aldo Moro, many people in Italy and outside it held the view that the cause of the murder was the official's political course, which was unfavorable to Washington. The U.S. Administration tried at all costs to prevent the approaching dialogue with the Communists. It was not a mere coincidence that only a few days before the kidnapping of Aldo Moro the U.S. Ambassador, (Gardner), stated publicly: Moro is the most dangerous and suspect personality in Italy's political arena. It seems that at that time his fate was already sealed. The While House entrusted the carrying out of the action, as usual, to the CIA, and the CIA to the terrorist bands subordinated to it.

Political murder is the CIA's favorite method of action. We can mention many examples of this. Let us recall the tragic fate of the first premier of the Congo, Patrice Lumumba, and President Salvador Allende of Slavador. The CIA organized the murder of the prime minister of Ceylon, Solomon Bandaranaike, and a series of other politicians. The CIA ordered plans to be made to assassinate the Cuban leader, Fidel Castro, and the prime minister of India, Indira Gandhi.

There are obvious links between this and the attempt made on the life of Pope John Paul II in May 1981. However, in this case attempts are being made to present it in a different light. The CIA is using this to spread a slanderous campaign against the socialist countries. In addition to this, a number of press organs in the West, obviously ordered to do so by the CIA, did not hesitate to classify (Agoa), a hardened criminal with neo-Nazi views, as [words indistinct].

Political murder and assassinations are not the CIA's only sphere of action. Terrorist actions are organized in order to complicate the situation in one country or another if the latter's policy happens to displease Washington [words indistinct]. The CIA's secret [word indistinct] are a part of the strategy prepared by the Washington administration, whose aim is [words indistinct] to consolidate U.S. domination in the world.

SHULTZ ON CHINA LEG OF FAR EASTERN TOUR

Arrival Noted

LD021000 Moscow TASS in English 0944 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Beijing, February 2 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived here today for a visit. He will hold two rounds of talks with Wu Xueqian, the PRC's minister of foreign affairs, and is to meet with Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC's State Council.

Preview of Visit

OW011711 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1300 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Beglov commentary: "U.S. Secretary of State's Trip to China"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Shultz is scheduled to arrive in Beijing on 2 February for an official visit. This will be the second leg of Shultz' trip to the Far East. The first leg of his trip is to Japan. In addition, he will also visit South Korea and Hong Kong. Station observer Beglov writes in this connection:

Recently U.S. newspapers and magazines have commented extensively on the purpose and prospects of Shultz' visit to Beijing. Most observers held the identical view that the secretary of state will be faced with many difficulties in the talks in the Chinese capital. As we all know, there have been complications in U.S.-Chinese relations in the recent past. Without a doubt, Shultz will have to explain to Beijing why Washington on the one hand expresses its desire to improve relations with China, and on the other hand firmly carries on with the policy of continuously supplying weapons to Taiwan. Moreover, the trade dispute between the United States and China has now become very serious. This is because Washington has taken strong protectionist measures against Chinese textile products, and China in turn has taken retaliatory measures, blocking imports of certain U.S. goods.

According to an official of the State Department, Shultz will try to alleviate the tensions between the two countries. However, there is no indication whatsoever that the United States is going to make concessions to Beijing on its policy of supporting Taiwan and in the trade war. THE TIMES of London writes on this question: Washington feels that the way to normalize relations lies in bringing up global issues with the Chinese leadership. The paper said: The U.S. Government is very uneasy about the tendency toward normalization of Sino-Soviet relations. Therefore, it intends to discuss this question under the overall topic of East-West relations.

It is not difficult to predict the position Shultz is going to take. On the eve of his visit to Beijing, the secretary of state, speaking in Tokyo, emphatically pointed to the so-called Soviet military threat to Asian countries. Under the cover of this absurd allegation, the United States has carried out vigorous activities. Its aim is to draw all the nonsocialist countries in Asia and China into the global U.S. anticommunist strategy. One main objective of these activities is to establish an aggressive military and political system under Washington's command.

An AFP correspondent notes that Shultz may have another task during his visit to Beijing. He wrote that Shultz may meet with Samdech Sihanouk, the Kampuchean leader in exile, in Beijing. The prediction is well-founded. At present, Washington is giving vigorous support to the so-called coalition government in an attempt to use this government to break up the Nonaligned Movement. Considering the fact that Sihanouk has hastily returned to Beijing from Bangkok just as Shultz is going to arrive there, there is ample proof that the AFP correspondent's prediction may well become true.

'Objectives and Prospects'

LD011625 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Vasiliy Fedorov commentary]

[Text] United States Secretary of State George Shultz arrives in Beijing today on the second leg of a Far Eastern tour which also includes Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong. Our commentator, Vasiliy Fedorov, writes today that the objectives and prospects of Mr Shultz's state visit to Beijing are very much in the spotlight in the United States at present.

Most observers agree that the talks in Beijing will not at all be easy for the secretary of state. Sino-American relations have recently been in difficult straits. Mr Shultz will apparently have to furnish an explanation as to how Washington proposes to combine statements that it wants better relations with China with the determination of the Reagan administration to keep on building up Taiwan's potential. On top of that, Sino-American differences (?of late) have been sorely aggravated. It all began with the United States planting (?strict) protectionist tariffs on Chinese textile imports, and Beijing retaliated by refusing to purchase certain objects of American make. Judging by what senior State Department officials have been saying, Mr Shultz will try to deflate tensions in relations between the two countries. But there are no signs the American side intends to concede its positions on either support of the Taipei regime or in the trade war with Beijing. Washington believes that normalization could be solved in the more global issues that it plans to put before the Chinese leadership.

According to information (?in) the position [as heard] of THE TIMES in London, the newspaper thinks the American Administration is extremely worried by the prospect of Sino-Soviet normalization and intends to discuss the issue within the East-West framework.

It is not at all difficult to guess what line Mr Shultz will pursue. While in Tokyo, before setting out for Beijing, he concentrated heavily on the Soviet military threat to Asia. This falsehood has served as an excuse for the United States to launch on a big campaign designed to recruit all the nonsocialist countries of Asia as well as China for Washington's global anticommunist effort. The chief objective is to form a sweeping military political system which would be aggressive and would be run on orders from Washington.

And finally, another possible aspect of the Shultz visit to Beijing to which a FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent draws attention: He said that while in Beijing Mr Shultz may meet the leader of the Kampuchean opposition, Prince Norodom Sihanouk. That sounds quite realistic. Washington is extending support of all kinds to the coalition of reactionary Khmer emigres in a bid to use it to split the Nonaligned Movement. The fact that Norodom Sihanouk (?is) to return to Beijing from Bangkok in time for Mr Shultz's arrival is a sign that the FRANCE-PRESSE forecast may be based on solid facts.

HISTORY OF U.S. 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST PRC TRACED

OW011457 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Glebov commentary: "Imperialists Will Not Become China's Friend"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists launched a war of aggression against the DPRK in the summer of 1950, which was also an undeclared war of aggression against the PRC. Then U.S. President Truman ordered the U.S. 7th Fleet to the Taiwan straits, where warships of the fleet patrolled off the coast of China, and U.S. troops actually occupied Taiwan. U.S. Air Force units were sent to Taiwan, and they turned it into their base in an attempt to take hostile action against China.

On a proposal by the Soviet Union, the UN Security Council put the issue of U.S. aggression against China on its agenda in August 1950. However, the U.S. delegation managed to postpone the discussion on this issue by the UN Security Council. U.S. aircraft began to bomb northeast China on 27 August 1950, and more than 90 air raids were carried out against Chinese territory in a little over a month.

At the request of the Chinese Government, the Soviet Union sent Air Force units to China. Soviet pilots shot down scores of U.S. planes, thus reliably defending the air space over northeast China.

After the end of the Korean war, the U.S. imperialists continued their aggression against China. U.S. troops were still stationed in Taiwan. The United States continued to build military bases on Taiwan and to supply the Chiang gang with weapons. Taiwan-based U.S.-Chiang aircraft raided China's coastal areas. In this regard, the American journal READER'S DIGEST wrote: American generals want to turn China's coastal areas into areas of bloodshed.

At the request of the Chinese Government, the Soviet Union once against sent pilots to China who brought American air pirates' raids on China to an end once and for all.

The United States and Chiang Kai-shek signed a mutual defense treaty in early December 1954. The day after the signing of the treaty, then U.S. Secretary of State Dulles pointed out: The signing of the mutual defense treaty means a permanent denial of the allegation that the United States will agree in any way to turn Taiwan and the Penghu Islands over to the communists.

After the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China in January 1979, the U.S. side abrogated the U.S.-Chiang mutual defense treaty in form. Facts show that the United States abrogated this treaty only in form. On 10 April 1979, 3 months and 10 days after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China, former President Carter, the then master of the White House, signed the U.S.-Taiwan Relations Act. Under this act, all U.S.-Chiang relations have been retained, including military relations. In other words, the U.S. imperialists still honor their commitments to Taiwan and protect Taiwan from so-called aggression by its true master. Moreover, the U.S. imperialists have taken measures to prevent Taiwan from falling under communist control, as Dulles said.

Despite the strong and justified protests by the Chinese Government, the United States has continued to supply the Chiang gang with weapons and modern military technology. The U.S. ruling clique sometimes openly takes hostile action against China; sometimes alleges with honeyed words that it sincerely wishes to consolidate its friendly and cooperative relations with China. However, talkative American generals openly say that they regard Taiwan as an unsinkable aircraft carrier of the United States; they have also defined Taiwan's important role in the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul military alliance.

Such being the case, of what value is the above grandiloquent allegation? Undoubtedly, this alliance is not only anti-Soviet but anti-Chinese as well.

JAPAN MOVING TO MINIMIZE CONTRADICTIONS WITH WEST

WA011710 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 4 Signed to Press 18 Jan 83 p 6

["Where Is This Train Bound?" by Mikhail Demchenko]

[Text] In commenting on his government's decision to lower the tariffs on 50 types of agricultural and 28 types of industrial goods imported by Japan, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone declared, "Many party members (the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party - M.D.) have protested these measures. However, the train has already pulled out, although some passengers are still standing on the platform."

By lowering the tariffs, the new Japanese cabinet is trying to minimize the increasingly sharpening contradictions in Japanese trade with the United States and the West European countries. Shintaro Abe, Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, paid a long visit early in January to five West European capitals -- Brussels, London, Bonn, Paris and Rome. Everywhere he went he was subjected to sharp criticism of Japanese "commercial aggressiveness" in connection with the EEC's deficit in foreign trade with Japan, a figure that now exceeds 15,000 million dollars, according to West European economists. The Japanese Minister heard demands both for the introduction of restrictions on Japanese imports and for the securing of easier access to the Japanese market for commodities from the Common Market countries. In reply Abe promised in the most general terms that Japan would continue to take measures to expand the access of goods to its markets, including the abolishment of non-tariff barriers, and that it would step up imports of goods from the EEC countries. At the same time, however, he also pointed out that the opportunities for the further reduction of Japanese tariffs were limited.

The Japanese Minister's tour failed to soften the acute contradictions between Japan and the Common Market. That is apparently why Abe tried to compensate for Japan's adamancy in trade by praising "NATO's major contribution to European security", and calling for Japan's cooperation with the bloc on the basis of a military alliance with Washington.

It looks very much like Japan intends to regulate its contradictions with the USA by expanding Japanese-US military cooperation and by increasing its own military preparations. We can see this, above all, in the country's budget for the fiscal year 1983, approved by the Nakasone cabinet. Yielding to US pressure, the Japanese government, while whittling down its allocations for the population's social needs, earmarked 11,500 million dollars for military spending -- 6.5 percent more than in the previous fiscal year. And this was done despite the serious financial problems inherited from former Prime Minister Suzuki, who resigned from his post, a man who had done more than all the Japanese prime ministers before him to draw Japan into the dangerous web of the US global strategy. By all indications the present Prime Minister has inherited Suzuki's policy.

Nakasone's first two journeys abroad are also noteworthy in this respect. Like Suzuki, he did not make the trips traditionally taken by new Japanese heads of government (after being elected their first stop was usually Washington). To remind the reader, Suzuki first toured the South-East Asian countries, only then did he go on to Washington. And Nakasone made a sort of a "surprise" visit to Seoul.

In real life there was hardly anything "surprising" in this. The White House has long been pushing Tokyo towards closer relations with Seoul so that the two countries would participate jointly in the US Far Eastern strategy. Washington has insisted that Japan take on, albeit indirectly, a part of the financing of the Seoul regime, whose military spending consumes over a third of its budget. During his short visit Nakasone completed the bargaining between Tokyo and Seoul over the size of the loan, a process that had gone on for 18 months. At first Seoul asked for 10,000 million dollars, but finally, the sides agreed on 4,000 million.

Officials in Tokyo are going all out to put the deal with Seoul in a favourable light, alleging that it has no military implications whatsoever, and that the money lent by Japan is intended for the "improvement of education, health services, water supply and sewage systems". However, these declarations failed to fool the Japanese press and public. Analysts are of the opinion that Japan's agreement to loan money and grant industrial technology to Seoul conceals Tokyo's readiness to help South Korea beef up its military muscle.

Japan's Communist and Socialist Parties sharply criticized Nakasone's talks in Seoul, assessing them as a step towards the establishment of a "military alliance of Japan, the United States and South Korea".

Nakasone's talks in Seoul, according to politicians in Tokyo, were a nice "gift" to the United States and helped prepare the grounds for a Japanese-US summit. Nakasone arrived in Washington, bearing not only the Seoul agreement, but another "gift" as well -- the decision that Japan is prepared to deliver its military technology to the United States with practically no preconditions, irrespective of whether or not that country is involved in some kind of conflict. Nakasone officially informed US President Reagan of this decision and confirmed Japan's commitment to undertake broader obligations in the military field.

SHULTZ TOKYO TRIP TO BUILD 'MILITARY MUSCLE'

LD011422 Moscow TASS in English 1403 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo February 1 TASS -- The purpose of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's recent trip to Tokyo was to attach Japan tighter to the dangerous policy of building up the "military muscle" pursued by the Reagan administration. According to the newspaper MAINICHI SHIMBUN, he visited the Japanese capital in order to coordinate details of the accords on boosting Japan's military might reached at the recent Japanese-American summit.

The American secretary of state, during his meetings here with leaders of the Japanese Government and the Defence Agency, demanded, on the pretext of the alleged "Soviet threat", that his partners in the talks further increase Japan's military spending and speed up the implementation of a five-year programme of modernising the Japanese Armed Forces (1983-1987). He repeated the demand at a press conference here today, stating that Japan should apply more efforts to defend its airspace and sea areas adjoining the Japanese islands.

Seeking coordination of Tokyo's military efforts with other Washington allies, Shultz favoured a closer exchange of information between Japan and NATO countries.

The U.S. secretary of state did not spare efforts to undermine mutually beneficial economic ties between Japan and the Soviet Union.

Local observers draw attention to the fact that the leading figures in the Japanese Government displayed excessive pliancy before the Washington emissary and agreed to practically all his demands. The support for U.S. anti-Soviet hegemonistic aspirations, openly displayed in recent time by official Tokyo, is of grave concern to the Japanese public. This concern is quite justified, since the lop-sided orientation of the Japanese ruling circles to Washington's aggressive strategy is fraught with the most serious consequences for the country's security.

'Excessive Pliability' to U.S.

LD020042 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1945 GMT 1 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Shultz today continued his talks in Tokyo with Japanese leaders. He met Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone, Foreign Minister Abe and military officials. As during the Japanese prime minister's recent visit to Washington, a wide range of questions have been discussed during Shultz's visit to Tokyo. They include military and economic questions. They concern closer cooperation between the United States and Japan. The main purpose of the present meeting in Tokyo is to bind Japan more tightly to the U.S. policy of building up military strength. This applies not just to the expansion of Japan's military potential. It also applies to the redistribution of military responsibility between the United States and Japan in the Pacific. The Pentagon's strategic domination of the Indian Ocean requires the transfer of U.S. naval units from the Pacific theater to the Indian Ocean region. For this reason Washington intends to allocate some of the military tasks in the Pacific to Tokyo.

At a press conference in the Japanese capital, Shultz declared that Japan must make a greater effort to defend its air space and the sea areas adjoining the Japanese archipelago. The newspaper MAINICHI believes that Washington plainly wishes to give Japan responsibility in the military sphere equal to that of the NATO countries.

The United States is demanding that Tokyo make more active endeavors for the so-called defense of sea routes in the northwestern part of the Pacific. In seeking the coordination of Tokyo's military endeavors with those of the other U.S. allies, Shultz advocated a closer exchange of information between Japan and the countries belonging to the NATO bloc. Neither did the U.S. secretary of state shirk any effort to undermine the mutually advantageous economic ties between Japan and the Soviet Union. As the Tokyo press notes, he showed great interest in the forthcoming visit to the USSR by a large delegation from Japanese business circles. He demanded that Japan follow the Reagan administration in freezing economic cooperation with the Soviet Union.

A TASS correspondent reports from Tokyo that local observers have drawn attention to the fact that the Japanese leaders have shown excessive pliability in the face of pressure from the emissary from Washington. They have effectively agreed to all his demands. This is arousing serious concern among the Japanese public.

U.S. Ships Based in Japan

LD011102 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] The U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz, has discussed with the Japanese leaders acute trade problems and bilateral relations and the issue of joint military efforts in the Far East. In terms of militaristic preparations this involves the deployment of nuclear medium-range missiles. The Pentagon's plans provide for equipping as early as next year, America's submarines and warships based in Japan with cruise missiles of the Tomahawk type. These will subsequently be equipped with nuclear warheads. The leading Soviet daily PRAVDA says Japan's policy of expanding military cooperation with the United States runs counter to the interests of the Japanese people and to the cause of peace in Asia and in the world at large.

'Dangerous Policy' Criticized

PM011547 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Dangerous Policy"]

[Text] Tokyo, 26 Jan -- Tokyo's course of stepping up militarist preparations and further strengthening the military alliance with Washington is giving rise to resolute protests from the Japanese public.

The press is sharply criticizing Prime Minister Y. Nakasone's statement during his visit to the United States on the intention of turning Japan into an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" and the call for a buildup in military might which he made in parliament. The influential newspaper MAINICHI assesses these bellicose statements as "evidence of Nakasone's desire to lead the country along an extremely dangerous course."

Nakasone's intention clearly goes beyond the bounds of "defensive plans," the newspaper AKAHATA writes today. "This course could have far-reaching consequences -- it could give impetus to a new spiral in the arms race and become a factor for exacerbating tension in the Far East and in Asia as a whole. It is fraught with dangerous consequences for the Japanese people," the newspaper warns.

Japanese military circles, seizing on the prime minister's militarist appeals, are stepping up practical preparations for operations by the armed forces on sea routes in the northwestern Pacific. In particular it is a question of operations by Japanese naval and air forces to "defend" sea routes with a radius of 1,000 miles from Japan's shores and to blockade the La Perouse, Korea and Tsugaru straits.

Japanese military officials, as is clear from a press conference given by (K. Natsume), chief of the Department of Defense at the National Security Agency, are not embarassed by the fact that it is a question of international straits where navigation is governed by the generally accepted norms of the law of the sea. The military department spokesman reaffirmed the intention to cut off the eastern and western passages of the Korea strait, including the international waters. As Tokyo SHIMBUN notes, the Defense Agency makes no secret of the anti-Soviet thrust of the actions planned by the American and Japanese military.

Mass public organizations have made protest statements against the dangerous policy of the government, which is dragging the country into the Pentagon's militarist adventures. "Down With the Japanese-American Military Alliance!", "We Will Not Allow Japan To Be Turned Into an Arena for 'Limited Nuclear War'!" -- a resolution including these demands was adopted by participants in a nationwide conference of activists in the struggle to dissolve the "security treaty" between Japan and the United States which ended today.

MOSCOW RADIO HITS AFGHAN GUERRILLAS' JAPAN VISIT

OW020939 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] The Japanese authorities have allowed two members of the Jami'at-e Eslami, an Afghan terrorist organization, to visit Japan and engage in political activites in Japan. In this connection, Tokyo correspondent Vladimir Tsvetov has filed the following report:

The Japanese authorities have treated curteously the ruffians who have indulged in murders, plunders and acts of violence; who have no nationality, not to mention any identification certificate whatsoever; who even have to have their visiting cards printed in Japan; and who are no better than tramps. Without any hesitation, the Japanese Foreign Ministry issued entry visas to them and the Miyagi prefectural authorities have invited them to visit an atomic power station now under construction. Furthermore, it is reported that arrangements have been made for them to meet with several Diet members and representatives of government organs.

What in the world will be the topics at these meetings? Are they going to talk about Jami'at-e Eslami members killing teachers and burning down schools? The terrorist organization has a most fierce hatred of teachers who have tried to put an end to the centuries-long illiteracy in Afghanistan; and thus, schools have become the terrorists' prime target.

At these meetings with the Afghan lords, their attempt to frustrate the agricultural land reform plans may be brought up. As a result of this reform, some 300,000 Afghan peasants have become masters of their own land for the first time in history. This, of course, has caused the feudal lords who hold the reins on these terrorists to hate and fear this agricultural land reform. It is also possible that these representatives of Afghan lords will talk about the special favors rendered the Jami'at-e Eslami by the U.S. CIA in providing them with weapons, funds and instructors.

Not long ago, a Soviet amateur art troupe from Magadan with laborers, students and clerical workers as its members, was invited by a Japanese mass organization to give performances in Japan, but the Foreign Ministry refused to issue visas to these singers and dancers. The Foreign Ministry accused them of engaging in activities other than performing during their previous visit to Japan. It is true that during and after their performances, members of this Soviet art troupe appealed to the Japanese audiences, saying that they wished to become good neighbors of Japan and to maintain peace and friendly relations with Japan, and this was the reason why the Japanese Foreign Ministry took sanctions against them.

In the meanwhile, prior to their visit these Afghan lords warned that they would attempt to instigate hatred against the Soviet Union -- a nation with which Japan maintains diplomatic relations -- and would encourage hostile acts against the Soviet Union.

Their itinerary reportedly includes a look at the southern part of the Kurile Islands. The leaders of the campaign to demand territories from the Soviet Union may want to intimidate the Soviet people by inviting these Afghanistan (?killers). If this is what they have in mind, it is just ridiculous.

On the other hand, however, it is of significance to note that the hosts of the anti-Soviet campaign are ready to shake hands even with these undisguised terrorists in an effort to stoke anti-Soviet feeling. If things go on like this, the Japanese hosts of the anti-Soviet campaign may next want to ask the services of the members of Italy's Red Brigades who are still at large. I cannot but feel that this may come true.

APN WRITER, CSSR PAPER ON JAPANESE ISSUES

AU311829 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 28 January 1983 on page 6 carries a 1,100-word article headlined "Shocking Facts About Japanese War Crimes; Shadows of the Past," written for RUDE PRAVO by APN Tokyo correspondent Vladimir Grinyuk.

The article reviews the contents of a book entitled "The Insatiability of the Devil," which was published in Japan about a year ago, and of its second part published there recently.

The book, Grinyuk says, describes the "terrible experiments" conducted under the command of Lieutenant General (Siro Isi) in a secret camp of the Japanese Army near Harbing in Manchuria between 1936 and 1945 on thousands of prisoners of war and civilians accused of anti-Japanese activity. The purpose of these "inhuman experiments" was to further "the development of military medicine" and they were also a part of preparations for bacteriological warfare against the USSR. After the war, "the H. Truman adminsitration concluded a dirty deal with (Siro)." In exchange for the "results of the medical research," it let "all the monsters of the Harbin Camp" go free, the author says. The U.S. Army made use of the material thus acquired during its "agression" in Korea. The U.S. bacteriological weapons deployed there were not much different from those developed in the Harbin Camp, Grinyuk says.

In another part of his article, Grinyuk describes the careers of some of (Siro's) assistants in postwar Japan.

In the closing part Grinyuk mentions the recent scandal involving the Japanese Ministry of Education and its attempts to revise the country's history textbooks "with the aim to justify Japan's aggressive policy vis-a-vis China, Korea and the Southeast Asian countries" prior to its defeat in World War II. He says that correspondents of the British daily THE GUARDIAN, recently discovered that two inspectors of the Japanese education ministry, who are taking part in the revision of the history textbooks, were active in the Harbin Camp.

"Thus the campaign of 'rewriting' history has acquired an even more ominous nuance in the eyes of the public. The memory of those tortured to death in the Harbin Camp demands that Japanese militarism and all its lackeys on whose hands there is blood be severely condemned," Grinyuk concludes his article.

On 29 January 1983, RUDE PRAVO on page 7 carries a 320-word Josef Vlcek commentary headlined "Who Threatens Japan?" dealing with the speech delivered by Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone shortly after he returned from Washington, in which he called on the Japanese population "to feel responsible for its self-defense."

"The question is: Against whom is Japan to be defended, who threatens it?" Vlcek asks and answers:

"From the policy of the new Japanese Government, until now openly siding with militarism and containing thoughts of revenge, and from the content of the recent Japanese-American talks, it arises that it is the United States and the Japanese militarist circles which are striving in a planned manner to increase tension in the Far East and trying to create favorable conditions for increasing American nuclear potential in that part of the world."

In this connection Vlcek says that high-ranking Japanese military officials have more than once openly admitted that the U.S. Air Force F-16's, which are capable of carrying nuclear weapons and which are to arrive at the U.S. bases in Japan, "are destined for waging an offensive war -- especially against the Soviet Union."

"Realistically thinking Japanese political circles, as well as the people of that country, realize what a dangerous game the current government has let itself be drawn into by Washington. Precisely the latest menacing speech by Prime Minister Nakasone and other official Japanese representatives, as well as the chauvinist appeal for the defense of the fatherland, attest to that," Vlcek concludes.

Also on 29 January, the daily carries a 100-word CTK report datelined Tokyo, 28 January, on Nakasone's speech before parliament saying Japan will continue strengthening its military potential. "In this connection, he affirmed his ENDEAVOR TO CHANGE CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLES WHICH EXCLUDE WAR AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR RESOLVING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS," [capitalized passage published in boldface], the CTK report ends.

U.S.-ROK TEAM SPIRIT-83 MANEUVERS BEGIN 1 FEB

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Hits Maneuvers

PM011517 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Feb 83 Second Edition p 3

[A. Golts "Military-Political Commentary": "According to Militarist Scenarios"]

[Text] The day after the Americans had been driven from Saigon by the Vietnamese patriots, then U.S. Defense Secretary J. Schlesinger said: "After the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam, West Europe and South Korea are the frontline zone of defense." By that he wanted to stress that the south of the Korean peninsula had become an even more important U.S. outpost than before. After all, it is precisely from there that the Pentagon strategists intend to threaten a number of socialist countries, primarily the DPRK. Back in 1976 the first large-scale joint maneuvers by U.S. and South Korean regime troops were held under the codename "Team Spirit," by way of a show of strength.

Past experience convinces us that Washington's view of South Korea as a convenient bridgehead for aggression has not changed. The Pentagon and the Seoul regime which obeys it are building up their military preparations. The now traditional "Team Spirit" maneuvers can serve as a convincing illustration of this. The eighth series of militarist games under this name begins on 1 February. According to foreign press figures, 70,000 Americans and 118,000 South Korean Army soldiers and officers will take part in it. That is almost twice as many as took part in these maneuvers in the late seventies. In addition to the 40,000-strong contingent of U.S. troops stationed in South Korea it has been decided to send U.S. Army units there from Japan and the United States itself. Two aircraft carrier groupings of the U.S. 7th Fleet will be involved in "Team Spirit-83." During the maneuvers a substantial proportion of the U.S. strategic and military transport aircraft in the Pacific zone will be used.

Foreign observers emphasize the overtly provocative nature of the "Team Sprit" maneuvers. An enormous number of troops are concentrated in the immediate vicinity of the DPRK, against which threats are constantly emanating from Washington and Seoul. The provocative essence of "Team Spirit" also consists in the fact that, under the guise of defense against a "surprise attack from the north," methods of unleashing acts of aggression in the Far East are being rehearsed. During these maneuvers an offensive operation is being carried out "using" chemical and tactical nuclear weapons.

It must be noted that scenarios of this kind are by no means the result of Pentagon strategists' speculative constructions. The facts convincingly attest that in their strategic rehearsals the U.S. generals really are proposing to conduct combat operations on the territory of the Korean peninsula using nuclear weapons, and a lot of nuclear weapons have been stockpiled in South Korea. According to foreign press figures the U.S. Armed Forces have over 700 nuclear warheads of varying yield there -- bombs, mines, artillery shells and missile warheads. The prelude to the "Team Spirit-83" maneuvers was a visit to Seoul by U.S. Army Chief of Staff General E. Meyer. At a press conference there he announced without a trace of embarrassment that U.S. troops "if necessary will use every means, including nuclear weapons."

...The artillery cannonade will rumble and tank and aircraft engines will roar for over 2 months across the south of the Korean peninsula. "Team Spirit-83" is designed to demonstrate that the White House still views South Korea as a "frontline zone" or simply as a region from which Washington is allowed to try to undertake crude military blackmail against sovereign states. It is no accident that the Pyongyang newspaper NODONG SINMUN has assessed the "Team Spirit-83" maneuvers as a flagrant act of provocation against the DPRK, an action aimed at aggravating tension not only on the Korean peninsula but also throughout Asia.

Games Break Personnel Record

SK012357 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Station commentator Mikhaylov commentary]

[Text] According to foreign reports, large-scale military mobile exercises, called Team Spirit-83, between U.S. Forces and the Seoul regime have begun. Having been regularly waged since 1976, the Team Spirit mobile exercises play a basic role in aggravating tension between North and South Korea and worsening the international situation in the Far East.

The U.S.-South Korean joint military mobile exercises, being staged this time, are not a mere continuation of such a grave tradition. The current war exercises break the records of the number of personnel participating and duration. The exercises are participated in by over 180,000 officers and men and will be staged until the middle of April. U.S. officers, men and their military equipment are being shifted from the United States, Japan and U.S. military bases in the Pacific to South Korea.

Though the Pentagon and the Seoul regime are babbling that the joint military mobile exercises are aimed at ensuring South Korean security, the provocative nature of the large-scale Team Spirit-83 war exercises is very clear. Long before the beginning of the exercises, foreign publications noted that the rehearsal is basically aimed at practicing a mutual cooperative operation between U.S. forces and the South Korean Army and at demonstrating their combat capabilities against the strong enemy, an applellation the Pentagon and the South Korean military clique give the DPRK. Time has shown, however, how assuredly Washington and Seoul have attempted to justify their preparations for war with the completely groundless (?rumor) of southward invasion.

Many foreign observers have pointed out that the Team Spirit-83 military mobile exercises, indeed, back the decision adopted when the Japanese prime minister recently visited Seoul and Washington, to further consolidate a U.S.-South Korean-Japanese military alliance. In addition, brandishing weapons around the demilitarized zone is Seoul's obvious answer to the DPRK's new proposal for peaceful reunification.

The fact that countless U.S. officers and men are landing in South Korea, adding to the 40,000 U.S. occupiers constantly stationed in South Korea, shows that the White House ignores the [word indistinct] demand of the Korean people, the peoples of the socialist countries and the progressive international social circles for the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea. As is known, the plan, once widely proclaimed, for withdrawing the U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, was canceled on the other side of the ocean.

Furthermore, the Pentagon is leading the situation in a direction that will increase its influence over this region. The Reagan administration decided to offer the Seoul regime about $200 million of [word indistinct], in fiscal 1982 and 1983, to be spent by Seoul in purchasing new weapons, including A-10 (?pursuit planes) and F-16 fighter-bombers, and in realizing the plan for special training programs for the South Korean Army.

It is not difficult to understand why the Pentagon still sticks to the plan of making the most of South Korea as the advanced base of its Asian military strategy. While trying to frustrate the efforts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to strengthen [words indistinct] in the Far East, the U.S. imperialists and their allies are attempting to take a new adventurous action and to speak with military power and [word indistinct] of blackmail.

The Team Spirit-83 war exercises, which the Pentagon and the Seoul pawns trumped up again to demonstrate the force of arms, will aggravate tension in this region and, for this reason, are arousing anxiety and denunciation from a wide range of the world's social circles.

Japan 'Invisibly Present'

LD011924 Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

The joint U.S.-South Korean exercises codenamed "Team Spirit-83" have been started in the south of the Korean peninsula. Taking part in this unprecedented for scope "show of military strength" are nearly 200 thousand servicemen of the United States and the Seoul regime, a considerable part of the U.S. strategic and military-transport aviation, ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, including aircraft carriers, ground military equipment. The provocative sabre-rattling close to the DPRK with the aim of preparing U.S. and South Korean forces for "emergency" operations will continue till April. Methods of conducting aggressive operations against the "imaginary enemy" with the imitation of the use of mass destruction weapons deployed in South Korea will be drilled. A statement made by chief of staff of the U.S. Army, General Edward Meyer in Seoul a week before the exercises started, shows that the U.S. Armed Forces in South Korea are prepared not only to imitate the use of nuclear weapon but even to resort to it "in case of need".

Though only two sides participate in this show of strength, the third one is invisibly present. It is Japan, whose prime minister visited Seoul last month and proclaimed the beginning of the "new era" in relations with the Seoul regime. The socialist party of Japan assessed this visit, and particularly a loan of four billion dollars to Seoul as a practical aid to the regime in the build-up of military strength, which will inevitably heighten tension on the Korean peninsula. And, as the events show, the situation on the peninsula is now developing precisely in this direction.

Upon the end of the visit, Seoul's representatives said that agreement has been reached to "create a system of cooperation between South Korea, the USA and Japan in the sphere of ensuring security". And though Tokyo denies this, these denials can hardly convince anyone. Prime Minister Nakasone as THE WASHINGTON POST reports, told U.S. correspondents that he is in favour of the consolidation of the alliance among Japan, South Korea and the USA, and Tokyo's practical deeds bespeak of the same.

For instance, the plans of blocking in "emergency" a number of international straits, including the Korea strait, are now being drawn up in Tokyo. But as the newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN noted reasonably, the blocking of the strait will not be effective without Seoul's participation. Therefore, the newspaper writes, the plan of blocking the strait "can be regarded as a concrete manifestation of the concept of collective defence with the participation of Japan and South Korea". The same is shown also by the growing military contacts, the working out in the military departments of those countries of the scenarios of joint operations in case of "emergency".

An important place in the United States' strategic plans in Asia is assigned to Japan and South Korea. As U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz stressed in his report to the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, Japan and South Korea supplement themselves in the military sphere and play in the Far East the role of a buttress "against the Soviet Union and communism". A buttress indeed, but of the United States' aggressive policy. The unprecedented show of military strength launched by Washington on the Korean peninsula contradicts the aspirations of the Asian peoples. It will only aggravate still more the tension in the region.

DPRK Reaction

LD020355 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Pyongyang -- In connection with the start of the "Team Spirit - 83" maneuvers, the supreme commander in chief of the Korean People's Army has ordered all units of the Korean People's Army, the People's Guard Troops and the People's Volunteer Corps to be on full combat readiness. This self-defense measure is the legitimate right of a sovereign people faced with the threat of imperialist aggression, according to the report by the supreme commander in chief of the Korean People's Army which was circulated by KCNA.

RUSAKOV MARKS BIRTHDAY OF MONGOLIA'S FOUNDER

LD010555 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 1 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A festive meeting devoted to the 90th birthday of Sukhe Bator, founder of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] and the Mongolian People's Republic, was held in Moscow today. In the Presidium were: Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

The meeting stressed that the MPRP, following the prompting of its leader, an ardent patriot and consistent internationalist, brought up a generation of people for whom socialism has become a vital matter.

Gotov, Mongolia's ambassador to the Soviet Union, said that the path followed by the MPRP completely confirmed Sukhe Bator's words that he could not conceive of Mongolia's future without friendship with the Soviet people.

U.S. OFFICIAL ON 'PROVOCATIVE' TRIP IN PAKISTAN

LD011042 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Washington is striving to undermine UN efforts aimed at resolving the Afghan situation. A high-ranking State Department official, George Newell, has arrived in Pakistan for this purpose. He made a provocative trip to the Afghan border and visited one of the so-called refugee camps where terrorists are subjected to military training prior to infiltrating Afghanistan. Like the previous Washington emissaries, Newell promised them further aid. This aid has already exceeded $200 million. The money is spent on teaching counterrevolutionary bands based at 80 camps in Pakistan how to handle different weaponry, including chemical. These bands are engaged in killing farmers, teachers and clergy in Afghanistan and in blasting economic facilities, schools, hospitals, and mosques.

UN ENVOY'S TALKS INCLUDE DRA SETTLEMENT ISSUE

LD020046 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1945 GMT 1 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] Cordovez, the assistant UN secretary general for special political questions, has concluded his mission in Kabul. He was received by Afghan leader Babrak Karmal, DRA Foreign Minister Dost, and by others. Prior to his visit to Kabul, Cordovez visited Tehran and Islamabad. This is already his second trip to Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

In an interview with the Afghan news agency BAKHTAR, Cordovez noted that during his talks in Kabul the possibilities for a settlement of the situation that has arisen over Afghanistan were discussed. He stressed that opportunities exist for a political settlement by means of talks. No information is being given yet about the essence of the talks. They are being held confidentially.

Naturally, there are quite a few difficulties created by those who are trying to impede the consolidation of people's power in Democratic Afghanistan and who are inspiring the large-scale intervention against this country. These forces are well-known. They are the imperialists and reactionaries. The United States and its allies are working especially actively to destabilize the situation in Afghanistan, to undermine the goals of the April Revolution. Kabul has repeatedly demonstrated its wish to eliminate tension over Afghanistan and to reach a political settlement, the basis for which is contained in the DRA proposals.

It is clear that the Afghan-Pakistani talks which have begun through the agency of the UN secretary general's representative could lead to qualitative progress toward a political settlement, but talks will have to be conducted seriously with the Government of Democratic Afghanistan for this to happen.

SPECIAL SOVIET FORCE FOR AFGHANISTAN REPORTED

GF281018 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 24 Jan 83 International Edition p 1

[Text] London, 24 Jan (AAP) [AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS] -- Some recently captured Soviet officers have revealed that in the (Vetsbiki) district of the Ukraine, special task forces are being set up for deployment in Afghanistan to assist those Afghan Communists who are constantly being attacked by "bandits" and to spread communism in Afghanistan.

The two Soviet officers were captured in the central Afghan province of Bamian. The two, Sergey Nikolayevich and 'Abdol Hayev, who are at present being held in a mujahidin camp in southern Afghanistan, told an AAP correspondent that the soldiers and officers who have an inclination toward communism are selected for the (Vetsbiki) task force to be trained in the extremist ideology of worldwide communist domination.

INDIAN DEPUTIES DISCUSS CIA 'CONSPIRACY'

LD011456 Moscow TASS in English 1301 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] New Delhi February 1 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Vinogradov reports:

The details of the conspiracy of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency against India, which were made public, have given rise to a storm of indignation in local political and public circles. As is noted by representatives of different parties, the U.S. espionage agency has launched a clandestine war against India in a bid to weaken, divide that country, to undermine its prestige in the international arena.

In the course of the meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee under the Ministry for External Affairs, Chandrajit Yadav, P.K. Kodian, other deputies emphasized that the United States, in line with the plan, is already conducting a massive campaign of pressure on India both economically and politically.

The United States blackmails India by building up its military might in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf, by supplying neighbouring Pakistan with up-to-date armaments. Simultaneously, Washington seeks to exert economic pressure upon India in a bid to prevent India from getting credits from international financial organizations.

According to the press, all sorts of extremist, subversive and secessionist elements have sharply stepped up activity in India, on the instruction from outside. The CIA added plans of separation from India of the north-western state of Punjab, other areas, to the plan of severance of north eastern territories, the "Brahmaputra" plan, which was drawn up long ago.

Frightened by scandalous disclosures, the United States is making desperate efforts to deny the irrefutable facts. A special statement in this connection was made by a representative of the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi. But it was not convincing. That these attempts are untenable was noted, specifically, by Deputy of Parliament from the ruling Indian National Congress Party (INC) R.L. Bhatia.

Answering questions of parliamentarians, the Indian Minister of External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao noted that the government of the country is now carrying out a thorough investigation by different channels into reports on CIA's plans. India's Embassy has requested explanations from the U.S. Department of State.

LE DUAN SPEECH AT DONG NAI MEETING CITED

PM011007 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under the rubric "News from Socialist Countries": "The Communists' Tasks"]

[Text] Hanoi, 31 Jan -- In socialist Vietnam an important political campaign continues -- the holding of conferences in provincial organs of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP]. Communists are discussing the first results of the implementation of the Fifth VCP Congress decisions and defining practical measures to fulfill the tasks set by the congress.

A party conference in the southern province of Dong Nai was addressed by Le Duan, general secretary of the VCP Central Committee. He gave a high assessment of the sucesses achieved in socialist building by the Communists and working people of the province, liberated only some 8 years ago from the neocolonialist yoke.

The general secretary of the VCP Central Committee dwelt on questions of topical significance not only for Dong Nai, but for the whole country. He noted that at present tasks of economic development are in the forefront, since successes in this sphere are the foundations on which achievements in all the other spheres of life are built. For all, the diversity of concrete conditions in each province, the most important thing is the struggle to successfully build socialism and the reliable defense of the socialist fatherland. The resolution of this task places a special responsibility on Communists, who are called upon to march in the vanguard of the masses' revolutionary movement.

Dwelling on questions of the VCP's foreign policy activity, Le Duan noted the need to further strengthen Vietnam's solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and the socialist community and with fraternal Laos and Kampuchea.

ANTI-INSURGENT FEELING GROWS IN BURMA

BK281343 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Recently Burmese papers have been discussing both the need to crush the anti-government insurgent movement and the strengthening of national defense and security. Public rallies are being held throughout Burma to denounce and oppose the criminal acts of the insurgents.

Speaking at a rally in Pa-an, U Saw Po Ni of the Karen State Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] unit denounced the crimes of insurgents operating under the slogans of narrow-minded racialism and their involvement in smuggling. For more than a decade, the insurgent activities, which have become a form of an undeclared war, have been obstructing the constructive undertakings of the Burmese people. They can no longer tolerate the looting, burning, killing and blatant acts of violence. The country also suffers great material loss from their smuggling of narcotic drugs, precious gems and timber. These illicit activities constitute a major source of income for the insurgent gangs. They use the proceeds from their smuggling to purchase arms abroad to fight government troops and to loot and kill the peace-loving innocent people. The Burmese people are fully aware of these facts, which disprove the insurgents' claims that they are defending the interests of a national minority. No one inside Burma believes these claims. The insurgents no longer enjoy support inside Burma, and the people are actively supporting the government forces which are opposing and fighting the insurgent groups of all shades.

The LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN newspaper reflects the people's feelings in writing that so long as there is insurgent activity, insurgency will remain as an obstruction to national progress and the building of a socialist democratic state. The only reason the

insurgents can continue to stage destructive acts is that they receive external support from forces that wish to interfere in the internal affairs of Burma and obstruct Burma's efforts toward the goal of socialism and a stronger national independence.

When the insurgents come under pressure from government forces, they retreat across the border only to regroup their forces and later re-enter Burma. This poses a most difficult problem in fighting the insurgents. THE GUARDIAN newspaper goes to the extent of pointing out that the insurgent gangs are a definite form of external threat.

Burma is currently preparing for the union day. In connection with this national day, the BSPP Central Committee has called on the people to work toward the consolidation of national unity and solidarity and to join the armed forces in annihilating the insurgents. Such a call is in line with Burma's determination to uphold its independent foreign policy, good-neighborly relations and cooperation with the people of the world based on equality.

U.S.-THAI MILITARY 'COLLABORATION' VIEWED

PM011357 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Vsevolod Kalinin "Commentator's Column": "Whipping Up Tension"]

[Text] Bangkok [no date given] -- John Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, has visited Thailand. It was officially announced that the purpose of his talks in Bangkok was to discuss a plan elaborated by the Pentagon for stockpiling arms in Southeast Asia. The press in countries in the region justifiably describes this venture as an attempt to bring the five ASEAN countries into the orbit of Washington's strategic designs in the Asian-Pacific region. Vessey has longstanding links with the Thai military leadership -- in the early seventies, when the American aggression in Indochina was at its height, he served in Thailand with the rank of brigadier general.

In recent years the Pentagon has succeeded in "building bridges" to regain its former bases in Thailand, which are now in mothballs. There is a growing influx of American armaments into Southeast Asia, above all Thailand. Ships of the American 7th fleet have virtually obtained "permanent registration" in Thai ports.

In exchange for this the Pentagon recently promised to grant the Thai Navy sophisticated armaments, as was announced by Admiral Sombun Chauphibun, commander of the fleet. According to him, Thai warships will be armed with Phalanx mortars in addition to Harpoon and Seasparrow missiles. Bangkok will also be supplied with two submarines.

The planned rehearsal of military collaboration continues. A week of maneuvers was held in January, during which American aircraft dropped mines at sea and Thai minesweepers fished them out. In June major joint exercises are planned, under the codename Cobra Cold 83. It is also planned to hold maneuvers with the participation of Singapore and Indonesia.

U.S. militarist aspirations, which run counter to the interests of the peoples of Southeast Asia, are giving rise to protests in the region. Washington uses various means to neutralize them -- propagandist indoctrination on the pretext of the mythical "Soviet threat" and economic and political pressure on the states on the region. The Khmer reactionary gangs that were thrown out of Kampuchea but enjoy unvarying U.S. support are also used as an instrument of pressure.

Obviously the saturation of the region with weapons and the fanning of military hysteria can only complicate the political situation and make it more difficult to resolve the already complex problems which exist in Southeast Asia.

COMMENTARY ON REAGAN'S ANTI-POLISH INITIATIVES

LD010513 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1400 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] The White House has published a report entitled Reagan's Presidency -- Analysis of Achievements in 81-82. These achievements include the intervention by the present head of the Washington administration in the internal affairs of Poland and the exploitation of Polish problems for American interests. Alexander Danilov, our commentator, says that it is significant that this part of the report has been placed in the chapter entitled: Europe -- the Atlantic Union.

All of the American President's anti-Polish initiatives are listed in order to confirm the toadying concept of the document's authors, which suggests the wisdom of the present head of the White House with whom, I quote, American ability to hold open and effective consultations with our allies has considerably grown. Apparently the campaign Washington waged against the Polish People's Republic and her allies to a certain extent helped the United States to consolidate her role as the leader in the Western world. The document says the United States, with her allies, has worked out a program of economic as well as diplomatic and political moves in response to the imposition of martial law in Poland. Those moves included refusing to reschedule the repayments of the Polish foreign debts; banning new official credits; and submitting the Polish problem to the UN Human Rights Commission, to the Madrid CSCE meeting and to the International Labor Organization.

A list of the moves mentioned in the White House document is absolutely true; the Moscow radio commentator says. The United States managed to activate her allies to carry our many anti-Polish moves. This list can also be completed by facts which the White House omitted in its report. For example, it is worth recalling NATO's rattling of weapons on the Polish borders or the propaganda show from a cheap marketplace which was attended by certain leaders of the capitalist states, following the American President. However, the most important fact is confined to oblivion in the White House document. The point is that Washington has not achieved its important target through its anti-Polish campaign.

They have not managed to wrench Poland from the socialist community [words indistinct] the Polish People's Republic is still a respected member of the world community and is marching in the front line of the countries which are resolutely defending the policy of peaceful coexistence, of respecting the justified interests of all states and of developing mutually beneficial international cooperation. Poland resolves her internal problems on her own, rejecting the demands, full of conceit, and pieces of advice of the pseudo-well-meaning representatives of the West.

Although economic sanctions created difficulties in the lives of the Polish working people, they were not thrown on their knees. With the support of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, Poland is extricating its economy from the crisis.

It is also worth mentioning that the campaign aimed against Poland and her allies had undesirable results for the instigators of this action. Inspired by their anti-Polish determination, the Reagan administration made many mistakes which, of course, could not have been beneficial for U.S. authority in the international arena. Even their closest allies in Western Europe tried to dissociate themselves from many of Washington's thoughtless decisions which were dictated by their pathological hatred to socialism. For example, a crusade against socialist countries was announced. However, it did not arouse visible delight from the Western partners, who became aware of the danger of returning to the policy of confrontation. The proclaimed economic sanctions subsequently had to be lifted because they harmed, above all, West European and American economic circles.

Fears are expressed more and more often, not only in Western Europe but also in America that Washington's course, which is formed and implemented in detachment from reality, ultimately harms the United States itself. For example, Anthony Lewis, a commentator of THE NEW YORK TIMES, characterized Reagan's foreign policy activities as exposing the country to ridicule. On the other hand, James Reston the senior American bourgeois journalist, defined this policy as a muddle of threats and screams. These statements are undoubtedly right in (?their assessment) of the results of the policy based on hatred. George Washington, first president of the United States, correctly stated that the country which indulges in a constant feeling of hatred toward another country becomes a slave of its own hatred. This was a commentary about Washington's anti-Polish policy.

MUECKENBERGER ASSESSMENT OF GDR-USSR RELATIONS

LD270316 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0454 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jan (TASS) -- "Our friendship has a firm foundation resting on proletarian socialist internationalism and decades of building a new society," writes Erich Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and president of the German-Soviet Friendship Society, in PRAVDA today. It has withstood the test of all the class battles of post war years, the author stresses. "It stands indestructible even today when the militarist circles of the United States and other NATO countries are aggravating the international situation and acting against the USSR, the GDR and the entire socialist community."

"The 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR and the 34th year of the existence of the GDR are evidence of the fact that our friendship and militant class union are marked by coordinated forward movement in the cause of the successful building of socialism and communism, and by our joint persistent struggle for the preservation of peace," Erich Mueckenberger continues.

The president of the society writes: "The German-Soviet Friendship Society will do everything in its power to help carry out the most urgent task of our time -- the preservation of peace -- and it will actively contribute to the reduction of international tension. We have in our hands a reliable compass to attain these goals. This constitutes, first and foremost, the peace-loving foreign policy of the Soviet Union. The Peace Program for the 1980's advanced by the 26th CPSU Congress and the other peaceful initiatives of the USSR which have recently been publicized. We are guided by the fact that, in conditions of an aggravated international class struggle, it is essential to further strengthen the unity and cohesion of the socialist community and the front of all peace-loving forces on the planet."

As Erich Mueckenberger goes on to point out, "the German-Soviet Friendship Society believes that one of its most important tasks is to contribute steadfastly to the further strengthening of the socialist fatherland and to constantly develop the friendship and the fraternal alliance between the GDR and the USSR, since it is well known that the stronger socialism is, the more lasting is peace."

SHITIKOV RECEIVES HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS

PM011639 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 19 January a delegation from the Hungarian Parliamentary Group headed by its chairman, S. Barcs, had a talk in Moscow with A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR and chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group.

The guests are in our country at the invitation of the USSR Parliamentary Group. S. Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the talk.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SUPREME SOVIET GREET CEAUSESCU

LD251134 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium have sent greetings to Comrade Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, on the occasion of his 65th birthday.

The telegram says: Your contribution to the implementation of radical social and economic changes, to the construction of socialism on Romanian territory and to the development of Soviet-Romanian cooperation is well known in the Soviet Union.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium wished Comrade Ceausescu health and success in his activity for the good of Socialist Romania in the interests of strengthening the further development of relations between the USSR and Romania. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium conferred upon Nicolae Ceausescu the Order of the October Revolution.

PEACE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN INTERVIEWED IN BULGARIA

AU261625 Sofia BTA in English 1440 GMT 26 Jan 83

["Who Threatens Whom?" -- BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, Jan 26 (BTA) -- Today's RABOTNICHESKO DELO carries an interview with Mr Yuriy Zhukov, chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, given to the daily's correspondent in Moscow.

Mr Zhukov underlines that the Prague declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries contains an "impressive list of practical proposals, whose realization would ensure the halt [words indistinct] list of practical proposals, whose realization would ensure the halting of the arms race and the consolidation of peace."

He points out that the proposals have evoked a favourable response among the world public. In this situation, Mr Zhukov goes on further, those openly aggressive forces who are setting now the fashion of the political line in Washington and the other capitals of the NATO countries, willy-nilly, should have to comply with the public moods.

"The people are neither blind, nor deaf. Try the American propaganda as much as it will to deceive them with fables about the 'Soviet menace', they cannot miss the real facts", Mr Zhukov says.

He underlines that while the Soviet Union has proposed to reduce the strategical arms by more than 25 per cent, to reduce three times the medium range nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union and the North Atlantic pact, and to destory the arsenals of chemical weapons, the United States of America is trying to add the MX missiles to its arsenals, is forcing the preparations for the deployment of the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe and is building new chemical weapon plants.

States Mr Zhukov: "This is quite sufficient to make it clear who threatens whom".

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON GENSCHER VISIT TO U.S.

Genscher-Shultz Talks

PM011401 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Trip Overseas"]

[Text] Washington, 26 Jan -- FRG Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher has arrived here on a 2-day official visit. He had talks with U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz.

As State Department spokesmen reported, at the meeting they discussed questions of bilateral relations, as well as plans to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missile weapons in the FRG and a number of other West European countries.

In this connection, the West German agency DDP reports from Washington, Genscher assured the head of the American foreign policy department that "the Federal Government supports President R. Reagan's 'zero option,'" which, as is known, is aimed at securing unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union and U.S. military superiority over the USSR.

The West German minister tried in every way to dispel Washington's fear at the scale of the antiwar movement in the FRG. During the talks Genscher again came out in favor of the deployment of the new American medium-range nuclear missiles on West European territory, which is causing powerful protests among the country's population.

Backs Zero Option

PM011029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Visit Concluded"]

[Text] Washington, 27 Jan -- FRG Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher has completed a 2-day official visit to the United States, where he met with President R. Reagan, Secretary of State G. Shultz, Vice President G. Bush and Defense Secretary C. Weinberger.

As State Department spokesmen have announced, the talks centered mainly on the implementation of the Pentagon and NATO plans to deploy 572 new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in the FRG and a number of other West European countries.

Addressing a presss conference here, the West German minister again declared the FRG Government's adherence to NATO's "dual decision," in other words, he fully supported the deployment of the U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles in the FRG.

The head of the FRG foreign policy department also championed Reagan's "zero option," which, as is well known, is aimed at the unilateral disarmament of the USSR and cannot be a basis for talks.

DISSENSION AT FDP CONGRESS SESSION NOTED

PM011337 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Congress Ends"]

[Text] Bonn, 31 Jan -- The Congress of the Free Democratic Party (FDP), which together with the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU] forms the government coalition in the FRG, ended in Freiburg yesterday.

It was devoted to preparing for the general election to the Bundestag to be held on 6 March. H.-D. Genscher, chairman of the FDP, who spoke at the congress, described the coming parliamentary election as, for the FDP, "the most serious task in the entire history of the Free Democrats." Giving a positive assessment of cooperation between the FDP and the conservative CDU/CSU bloc, he stated the intention of continuing this cooperation after the 6 March Bundestag election. At the same time he attacked his former partner in the government coalition, the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

Touching on the question of the FRG's military policy, H.-D. Genscher again stressed adherence to NATO's "deterrence" strategy which, according to him, must be supplemented by arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures. In the opinion of the Free Democrats' chairman, at the Geneva talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe it is necessary to strive for an "interim result" if the complete "zero option" cannot be achieved in one go.

Discussing H.-D. Genscher's speech, many speakers criticized the party leader's decision to change the coalition, which entailed acute disagreements within the party. This criticism was expressed, in particular, in the vote on the question of recognizing as an FDP organization the "Young Liberals," who are intended to replace another youth organization, the "Young Democrats." As is known, the "Young Democrats" left the FDP en bloc as a token of their disagreement with the party leadership's policy in breaking the many years of coalition activity with the Social Democrats. Only on a second vote, and by a majority of only two votes, was the party leadership able to push through the decision to admit the "Young Liberals." In protest against this operation, a prominent FDP figure, M. Stadler-Euler, announced her resignation from the party, explaining that these actions are a violation of "party democracy."

PYM: UK, NATO 'HELPLESS' IN FACE OF SOVIET MIGHT

LD012357 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2315 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, 2 Feb [TASS] -- The speaker has resorted to unworthy methods, speaking about the correlation of forces between East and West and distorting the sense of Soviet proposals regarding nuclear weapons in Europe, PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov writes, commenting on the speech by Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, made at the association of the Conservative Party of Cambridge University. According to the minister, NATO in general and Britain in particular, are really quite helpless, unarmed and defenseless in the face of "Soviet superiority" in all its types of military might. The situation is allegedly a dismal one and if not a desperate one, the only because of the existence of the NATO "twin-track decision." What is needed is that the 160 American cruise missiles be sited on British soil, and the quicker the better. Then, the members of the Conservative government will for the first time be able to sleep in peace....

Can there really have been anyone among those gathered in the Cambridge auditorium who was unaware that Britain herself is a nuclear power?, says the rejoinder. "After all, she has her own means for delivering nuclear weapons in the form of Vulcan aircraft and atomic submarines with Polaris missiles. Moreover, even British schoolchildren know that these weapons are by no means targeted at the Falkland Islands."

"Scaring his listeners with the 'Soviet military threat,' the member of the Conservative government betrayed his own fear of the British antiwar movement," notes the author. "After all, occurrences such as the women's 'peace camp' at Greenham Common, which are a threat for the Tories, may become more than a hindrance for the deployment there of American cruise missiles. The antinuclear and antimissile wave may produce a turn, undesirable for the ruling party, to the political battle at the parliamentary elections whose approach is sensed on the banks of the Thames."

CHEYSSON TO VISIT MOSCOW; GROMYKO TO VISIT ROME

LD281336 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1127 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, Jan 29 (TANJUG) -- It has been officially confirmed in Moscow that the French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson will pay an official visit to Moscow in the second half of February.

It is expected that the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will visit Rome next month and the President of the Commission for Military Affairs of the U.S. Senate John Tower, will arrive here at the beginning of February.

U.S. PLANS TO MODERNIZE BASE IN AZORES

LD020050 Moscow TASS in English 1856 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Lisbon February 1 TASS -- The U.S. budget for the current fiscal year provides for the allocation of 67 million dollars (more than 6,000 million escudos) to modernise the Air Force Base Lajes on Terceira Island of the Azores Archipelago belonging to Portugal, the local press reports.

That base, which the U.S. Air Force has leased for more than thirty years, has been repeatedly used in the airlifting of American servicemen and equipment to "trouble spots" in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The planned injection of nearly 70 million dollars is designed, according to newspapers, to expand the existing fuel storage facilities and upgrade U.S. Air Force support services. It is believed here that these preparations pursue to be used by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force, which has the task of interfering wherever and whenever there emerges a threat to U.S. "vital interests".

It is pointed out in local political circles that the appropriation of funds to modernise the Lajes base as talks are under way on renewing the American lease of that base is an act of undisguised financial-political pressure on Portuguese authorities.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON U.S.-ISRAELI 'THREAT' TO SYRIA

LD011015 Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 1 Feb 83

["PRAVDA: Aggressors' Insolent Provocations" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS -- "The Syrian leadership protects with dignity the sovereignty of the country -- the right to conduct an independent policy. The Syrian leadership does not want to reconcile itself with the loss of the Golan Heights. Therefore, a fist has been raised against Syria," the newspaper PRAVDA stresses in its article "Aggressors' Insolent Provocations".

Commenting on the Israeli rulers' threat against Syria, which have become more frequent of late, and the concentration of the Israeli troops against that Arab country, PRAVDA points out that the measures to strengthen the country's anti-aircraft defences were the direct pretext for threats and attacks on Syria.

Is it not the right of a sovereign country to take care to defend against air attacks of its own territory, its towns and villages, which have been repeatedly subjected to Israeli bombings, the newspaper queries in this connection. Syria is not going to attack anybody. Is there anything dangerous to others in that?

But noisy hullaballo was raised exactly around that. This is the logic of the aggressors -- to put everything upside down. And the explanation is simple: The ruling circles of Israel, Begin, Sharon and the like conduct the criminal anti-Arab policy, they seek to keep the neighbouring peoples in fear of their military machine. Such a course has been to the liking of the ruling Washington circles for many years. Moreover, it is encouraged and masterminded by them.

"Having undertook the responsibility for turning Israel into the biggest military force in the Middle East, the United States thus also bears full responsibility for aggressive sallies of its client, though on the other side of the Atlantic many speeches are being made on Washington's 'peace-keeping mission' in the Middle East," the newspaper stresses.

"The course of events in the Middle East shows that the United States stakes on Israel's military fist. The United States needs that fist both to exert constant pressure on Arab states, and to further certain anti-Soviet plans. Tel Aviv's aggressiveness is to a major extent the derivative of the course of the United States itself, the Zionists become more insolent because they have the supporter on the other side of the Atlantic."

"Meanwhile, the United States with persistence worthy of a better application seeks to strengthen its positions in the Middle East, to build up its military machine which is acting there. In the recent weeks the United States has been particularly intensifying its activities in the Middle East, in South West Asia, in the Indian Ocean basin. It seeks to establish new military bases there. It is not without Israel's assistance that the Pentagon managed to station its units first on the Sinai Peninsula and then in Lebanon. Recently announced was the decision to form the so-called "U.S. Central Command", with its sphere of action spreading to a vast area, including many Arab countries. Such a militaristic line in itself encourages Israeli ringleaders to commit sallies against neighbouring countries, including Syria," PRAVDA writes.

"The aggressors and their supporters should remember the lessons of history, which are: The stake of force causes peoples' hatred, it cannot break their will and is, in the final count, doomed to inevitable failure," the newspaper writes in conclusion.

EGYPTIAN COMMITTEE SUPPORTS SOVIET MIDEAST POLICY

PM021041 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Important Factor"]

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb -- Soviet-Arab friendship and cooperation are an important factor in the struggle for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Near East and for the victory of the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine. This was stated in a press statement issued here by the Egyptian National Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries.

The Egyptian National Solidarity Committee, the document points out, greatly appreciates the Soviet Union's principled stand on the Near East, its unvarying support for the Arab national liberation movement and the USSR's efforts for a just and all-embracing settlement in the region. The committee angrily denounces the barbaric Israeli aggression against Lebanon, fully supported and encouraged in every way by Washington, and the aggressive and adventurist U.S. policy in the Near East and resolutely opposes the further increase of imperialist interference in the region's affairs.

The statement also denounces imperialist interference in Southeast Asia and contains a demand for the abolition of the imperialist countries' military bases in the Indian Ocean region.

KALICHIN DISCUSSES SOVIET-EGYPTIAN COOPERATION

LD020446 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Fourth and final in a series of talks on Soviet-Egyptian cooperation prepared Viktor Kalichin]

[Text] Viktor Kalichin writes that he will try to answer the question he is often asked, that is: What is the situation today with regard to Soviet-Egyptian cooperation?

Let us first refer to (?history). It is no secret that difficulties were created and various kinds of barriers to cooperation with Egypt were deliberately set up in recent years, but it was not the Soviet Union's (?fault). Egypt even banned the export of several Egyptian commodities to the Soviet Union, despite the fact that these same commodities were not often sold in Western markets. Furthermore, Egypt unilaterally abrogated some contracts connected with cooperation with Soviet establishments. For example, in September 1981 the Soviet Union recalled, at As-Sadat's request, Soviet experts from cooperation projects in Egypt. In addition, official Egyptian authorities and the newspapers which they controlled embarked on absurd attempts to publicly revile the aims and principles of economic relations with the Soviet Union. They particularly tried to cast doubt on the principle of the mutual benefit of these relations.

However, the Egyptians with sound and wise reasoning, particularly economic experts, came to realize that those unilateral hostile measures against the Soviet Union caused heavy losses to Egypt and to the interests of the Egyptian workers. This same fact was realized by official Egyptian authorities, who after As-Sadat's death, asked the Soviet Union to return some Soviet experts to Egypt. In an interview with AL-AHRAM on 31 December 1982, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan Ali said that Egypt was prepared to establish normal relations with the Soviet Union in the field of economic and technical cooperation.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, we welcome this step. We must point out that Soviet-Egyptian economic and technical cooperation never ceased; the Soviet establishments did not stop meeting their undertakings to import equipment and spare parts to Egypt for factories that are operating or being constructed. At the end of 1982, the Egyptian side asked the Soviet Union to send technicians to a number of economic cooperation projects. Moscow considered Cairo's requests with understanding.

So far, a number of contracts have either been signed or are ready to be signed with regard to sending Soviet experts to Egypt to work at the Hulwan iron and steel complex, the coke plant, the thermal brick plant and the Naj Hammadi aluminum plant. A large team of Soviet experts is presently working at the abovementioned projects and also at the Asyut cement plant. The Soviet experts who will be sent to Aswan in the first quarter of this year will repair a turbine at the Aswan hydroelectric station.

A 180-ton electric transformer was shipped at the end of last year from the Soviet port of Novorossiysk to Egypt in order to modernize the electricity transformer in Cairo, which has a capacity of 500 kilovolts. This electric transformer was designed and prepared especially for the unified energy system in Egypt. This transformer is so complicated and so huge that a special plan was required for loading it onto the ship. Two similar Soviet electric transformers will reach Egypt in the future. The Soviet Union continues to export to Egypt equipment and spare parts for these transformers for use in energy projects and in cooperative agricultural projects, particularly in the implementation of electrifying Egypt's rural areas.

The possibility of cooperation in laying new electric power lines and other projects in Egypt is currently being studied. The second stage of constructing the Naj Hammadi aluminum plant is being carried out; this is a huge project of Soviet-Egyptian cooperation which will produce 166,000 tons annually. There are other fields where bilateral cooperation can be promoted.

Concluding, Viktor Kalichin said: Soviet establishments are prepared to discuss these possibilities with their Egyptian colleagues and to approve their (?use).

SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER DEPARTS FOR TALKS IN IRAN

NC011144 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Soviet Deputy Roads Minister [title as heard] Vitaliy Sosnin has left for Iran at the head of a Soviet delegation to take part in an extraordinary Iranian-Soviet meeting to discuss matters pertaining to the direct rail link between the two countries. Problems on the transport of trade commodities to Iran via Soviet roads as well as passenger schedules between Moscow and Tehran will be discussed.

MOSCOW NOTES SOVIET-IRANIAN COOPERATION

NC011411 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Excerpts] One of the large units built by Soviet-Iranian cooperation, the Julfa-Tabriz electic railroad, has become operational. This is an occasion of paramount importance as far as the attainment of a new quality of transportation in Iran is concerned. This is one of the first electric railroads in Iran.

Much has been done by Soviet and Iranian experts in modernizing and renovating the railroad depot in Tabriz. Soviet and Iranian engineers, technicians and workers worked side by side in this project for many years.

Thanks to their efforts modern Soviet machinery and equipment have been installed, which have made the Tabriz depot the most complete railroad system in Azerbaijan. Soviet organizations have completed activities pertaining to the electrification of the Julfa-Tarbriz railroad, which is now being operated by Iranian experts, trained and fully prepared for working in this field with the assistance of Soviet experts. Therefore, the opening of the Julfa-Tabriz electric railroad, in the final analysis, strengthens our southern neighbor's economic independence and creates favorable conditions for the development of good-neighborly relations between Iran and the Soviet Union.

ISRAEL 'BEGINNING TO INTERFERE' IN LATIN AMERICA

LD271425 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2205 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jan (TASS) -- The decision of the U.S. Senate concerning American assistance to Israel in 1983 has put everything into place. It can be noted straightaway, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes, that there was not even a mention about any reduction in this assistance.

Analyzing the reasons which compel the United States, despite its own economic problems and drop in international prestige, to offer Israel such incredible assistance, the paper writes: Since the day it was founded, the state of Israel has been a tool of imperialism's dangerous plans in the Near East. However, with the passing of time reactionary circles in the West have found that using the "Israeli model" in other parts of our planet can be of value too.

Israel's activity in Latin America has increased considerably, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA emphasizes. Besides Honduras, Israeli weapons are sent to Guatemala, El Salvador, Chile and other similar states where power is upheld with bayonets and tanks.

With the approval of its Washington protectors Israel is beginning to interfere more presistently in the affairs of the Latin American countries, using for this purpose its own military advisers. The present head of the Guatemalan military regime, Rios Montt, who came to power as a result of the overthrow of the legitimate government, said in a television interview that "this coup was successful because most of our troops were trained by the Israelis."

Now the Israelis are rushing in to seize key positions in Costa Rica. For example, Foreign Minister I. Shamir, during his visit to that country, persistently proposed weapons and advisers to reorganize the national police.

PEREZ DE CUELLAR VIEWS CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA

LD012305 Moscow TASS in English 2222 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Luanda February 2 TASS -- The presence of Cuban troops in Angola is a bilateral problem between Angola and Cuba and should not be a precondition for Namibian independence. This was stated by the United Nations Secretary General Perez de Cuellar here Tuesday at the end of his visit to Angola. He also said he was determined to see progress in the "defensive struggle" of southern African independent countries against apartheid and colonialism.

The UN secretary general set out for a trip to south African countries in conditions, when the South African apartheid regime, supported by the U.S., actually blocked the process of the settlement of the Namibian problem by putting forward as a precondition the withdrawal of Cuban military contingent from Angola.

Cuban internationalist troops are staying in Angola at the request of the government of that country, and they will be pulled out only when the threat of aggression or an armed intervention of Angola is removed, a commentary of the ANGOP news agency of Angola points out.

DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES CITED

LD011450 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Commentary by Dr Nikolay Gavrilov]

[Text] The revolutionary process in Africa is proceeding in several directions, but it is expressed most vividly in a big group of newly freed nations taking to the road of socialist development. The first such countries appeared in Africa in the early sixties. They were Ghana, Guinea and some others. In the intervening years this group of states has been changing in numbers and in composition. But, most important, there have been changes in the views of the revolutionary democrats heading the movement of socialist orientation toward greater reliance on the ideas of scientific socialism. As a result they have creatively been developing and implementing the Marxist-Leninist concept of socialist orientation.

A big contribution to this development has come from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the parties of other socialist nations. The Central Committee report to the latest, 26th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party classified socialist orientation as the gradual weeding out of the positions of imperialist monopolies, the big local bourgeoisie and feudal lords, and the restriction of foreign capital activities. Other elements of socialist orientation, as defined in the report, are: guaranteeing the people's state commanding heights of the economy; transition to planned development of the productive forces; and encouragement of the cooperative movement in rural areas. Socialist orientation also means that the working people play an increasing role in public affairs and that the state apparatus is gradually strengthened with national cadres loyal to the people.

The Central Committee report spoke of the anti-imperialist nature of the foreign policies of the socialist-oriented countries and of their revolutionary parties which work on behalf of the broad working masses, growing ever stronger. These are the basic criteria or features of socialist orientation. However, it is obvious that countries that have opted it [as heard] have not been developing similarly. Some have made fast social progress; others for some reason or other have been forging their way forward more slowly.

The thing about socialist orientation of recent years is that vanguard parties of the working people have come into being and have come to the fore in a number of young states, and they are basing their activities on the Marxist-Leninist teaching. Such parties exist in Angola, Benin, the Congo and Mozambique, and another such party is about to be established in Ethiopia.

In those countries socialist oriented reforms are being implemented with particular vigor. They are marked by depth and consistency, and for the most part, which is very important, they are based on a class approach in which top priority is given to the working masses' interests. There is reason to say that this group of states has entered the stage of establishing people's democratic government. The fact that they have set up vanguard parties of the working people, which have proved viable and growing stronger all the time, gives the lie to the claim that Marxism-Leninism is an alien ideology for Africa, and that it is unable to ensure a transition to socialism in African conditions.

According to Comrade Pizarro, who is in charge of political and ideological education of the Central Committee of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party, the practice of socialist construction in Angola is a striking example of the present-day importance of the Marxist-Leninist teaching, and rejects bourgeois concepts that it is alien to the African Continent.

And the last thing: The revolutionary process in Africa is developing very much in step with the situation in the world. At a time when the imperialist powers led by the United States are heightening international tension and are trying to turn back the wheel of history, it is of crucial importance that the young progressive states are supported by the countries of the socialist community. The foreign minister of the People's Republic of the Congo, Pierre Nze, recently said that the young progressive states of Africa can score victory only with the all-round support of countries that are building a society on the basis of the same ideals.

HONDURAS 'READY TOOL' OF U.S. 'AGGRESSION'

LD012032 Moscow TASS in English 1747 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS -- TASS political observer Nikolay Chigir writes:

The joint U.S.-Honduran exercises codenamed Big Pine, that are held in Honduras from February 1 are a new manifestation of the bellicose course of the Washington administration which elevated to the rank of official policy the use of force or threat by force so as to dictate its will to other countries and peoples. Sabre rattlings in Central America, where the situation is aggravated as it is, has an openly provocative character. While the demands to settle dangerous conflict situations in Central America by a peaceful, political way, through talks sound ever more insistently in the world, the U.S. Government resorts to another militaristic venture in the region, the venture that is fraught with the serious consequences for peace and security. The U.S. Administration shows cynically its utter contempt not only for the will and aspirations of the peoples of Central America, of the world public, but also for the stand held by the governments of a number of countries, U.S. allies, in Latin America and in Europe.

The present Washington "show of strength" is a glaring contradiction to the calls of such countries as Mexico, Venezuala, Colombia, France, to take the road of political dialogue for solving conflicts in Central America. The Washington administration criminally ignores also the demands of nearly 100 nonaligned countries, which at the recent meeting of their Coordination Bureau in Managua declared resolutely for an immediate end to imperialist interference in Central America.

The Big Pine exercises with the participation of the U.S. Air Force and Navy and over 6,000 servicemen, almost a third of whom are officers and men of the U.S. Armed Forces are spearheaded against Nicaragua. Political observers, including those in the United States, quite justifiably regard the exercises as a sort of prelude to a large-scale aggression against Nicaragua planned by Washington in which the main role is assigned to the Honduran Army and mercenaries consisting of former Somoza men who were trained and rushed into Honduras by the Pentagon and the CIA. It is not accidental that the areas adjoining the Nicaraguan border where gangs of Somoza men are deployed have been chosen as the area of the exercises.

The U.S. Administration is speedily turning Honduras into a place d'armes of aggression against Nicaragua and into its bridgehead for interference into internal affairs of other countries in Central America. According to Washington's designs, the army of the Honduran puppet regime must serve for the United States as the main gendarme force in the region. Already now, according to reports, the United States is sending units of Honduran forces into Salvador for rendering assistance to the army of the Salvadoran junta which is waging a veritable war against the Salvadoran people.

Honduras is being turned into a ready tool of the United States' interventionist policy in Central America. This is shown, (?specifically) by the fact, that the U.S. military aid to the Honduran regime rose ten-fold in the past three years. The same is shown convincingly by the present U.S.-Honduran military exercises.

The heightening of dangerous tension in Central America, the creation in it of the atmosphere of war hysteria with the aim of preparing still wider interventionist actions in the region, is another clear manifestation of the reckless policy of the Washington administration on the international arena, the policy that evokes angry condemnation and rebuff of all peace forces of the world.

PRAVDA REPORTS ANDROPOV MEETING WITH WORKERS

PM011130 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 83 First Edition pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Yu.V. Andropov's Meeting With Moscow Machine Tool Builders"]

[Text] Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited Moscow's Sergo Ordzhonikidze machine tool building plants. Comrade Yu.V. Andropov visited the enterprise's shops and familiarized himself with the plant's output. In teams and sections Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov talked with workers and foremen and inquired about the organization of their labor, training and leisure.

In the assembly shop Yu.V. Andropov inquired how things are as regards cadres.

Plant director N.S. Chikirev replied that there is a serious problem here.

Yu.V. Andropov: What is the problem?

N.S. Chikirev: There are not enough fitters or electricians; the influx of young people is poor. This is a problem not only in Moscow, but in other cities too. The plant has difficulties in recruiting machine operators.

Yu.V. Andropov: What sort of wages do the machine operators get?

N.S. Chikirev: A decent wage.

Yu.V. Andropov turned to plane operator S.A. Koloev: Have you been working here long?

S.A. Korolev: Seven years.

Yu.V. Andropov: At a machine all the time?

S.A. Korolev: All the time.

Yu.V. Andropov: What is your wage like?

S.A. Korolev: Normal.

Yu.V. Andropov: But what?

S.A. Korolev: It comes to R250.

Yu.V. Andropov: And a fitter gets more?

S.A. Korolev: No, about the same.

In the next shop the talk was about the plant's modernization and some of the enterprise's products. Yu.V. Andropov inquired about the competitiveness of the machine tools in the world market and what countries they are sold in.

Yu.V. Andropov: What technical assistance does your plant give to enterprises in socialist countries?

N.S. Chikirev: We supply our plant's output to CEMA countries. Specialists and workers from socialist countries come to us to study our experience. There are direct ties. Thus, Czechoslovak friends come to us. We visit them too.

Yu.V. Andropov turned to B.A. Shunin, a setter of automatic machine tools: Have you been working at the plant for long?

B.A. Shunin: Twenty years.

Yu.V. Andropov: And on this line?

B.A. Shunin: Six years.

Yu.V. Andropov: And does it take long to master it?

B.A. Shunin: There is something new to learn all the time.

Yu.V. Andropov: Is it difficult?

B.A. Shunin: It is difficult, but you have to learn.

Setter M.F. Skripkin, a production veteran, joined in the conversation: Yuriy Vladimirovich, once you master it, the work is not difficult.

Yu.V. Andropov: But after that they give you something new?

M.F. Skripkin: We master that too. It's our job.

Yu.V. Andropov: One question in secret. How much do you get?

M.F. Skripkin: Enough; R380 with my pension.

Yu.V. Andropov: How big is your family?

M.F. Skripkin: There are two of us.

Passing a machine tool where a young worker stood, N.S. Chikirev explained: "This is my son. He finished at the institute and decided to work at a machine for a while."

Yu.V. Andropov: What institute did you graduate from?

V.N. Chikirev: The machine tool and tool building institute. I worked at this plant before going to the institute. I came here straight from school. We have a family dynasty; my mother works at this plant too.

Yu.V. Andropov: Why did you decide to work at the machine?

V.N. Chikirev: You have to actually work on the machine tools to get to know the process of making them better.

Drill operator V.P. Chayka, a plant veteran, approached Yu.V. Andropov.

V.P. Chayka: I have been working at the plant for more than 41 years. I retired on pension, they gave me a good sendoff. Everything was going well at home too. But what would I do at home? It is better to work, in the collective. I am valued here. People say many kind things. I have been at the plant since 1942; I was a girl of 15 when I came. I remember at that time I was given a little piglet as a bonus for good work. I will work at the plant as long as I have the strength.

Then, during the workers' break in the plant conference hall, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov met with representatives of shops and the plant management -- workers, team leaders, technicians, engineers and leaders of the enterprise and of the party, trade union and Komsomol organizations.

The meeting was opened by V.I. Kubrin, secretary of the plant's party committee.

Plant director N.S. Chikirev spoke of the plant's history, the course of socialist competition, the enterprise collective's implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November plenum, technical and economic indicators and prospects in machine tool building.

After the CPSU Central Committee November plenum, he stated, the plant's collective took a more profound look at the discipline problem. Our plant, alongside other Moscow enterprises, put forward an initiative on improving labor organization and increasing labor and production discipline. A decision was adopted to increase labor productivity by a minimum of 1.5-2 percent in 1983 by reducing losses of worktime. I think the work we are doing now to strengthen labor discipline is really very important. We can see our shortcomings and we know how to combat them. We are capable of coping with the tasks put forward at the CPSU Central Committee plenum. To ensure the successful fulfillment of the intensive plans laid down, the enterprise collective has adopted substantial socialist pledges for this year. They were discussed in collectives and at a general meeting. We have pledged to fulfill the current year's plan by 27 December.

Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, then addressed those present.

Dear comrades! Many thanks to you for the warm reception. I regard this attitude on your part as an advance against the future and I will try to work in such a way as to justify your trust. Naturally, I do not relate this to myself, personally, but to the Central Committee and the Politburo. Thank you for this.

On behalf of the party's Central Committee, I would like to express gratitude to you for supporting the decisions of the Central Committee's November plenum together with other Moscow collectives. It is gratifying that the plenum decisions are meeting with a lively response in all labor collectives throughout the country. This means that what was said at the plenum really touched on people's interests. We sense the unanimous support of the Soviet working class for the party's decisions aimed at the further development of the country's economy.

Your remarkable collective has proved that it is a good prop for the city's party organization and that the party gorkom and the party's Central Committee can rely on it.

The comrades here have already spoken of the great importance of the CPSU Central Committee November plenum. It is determined not only by the fact that the plenum outlined paths for the development of our country's national economy for the current year and set great tasks connected with the dimensions of our construction and production. Production in our country is truly immense. Not a single country in the world produces as much steel, oil and other output for instance. The plenum's decisions are also important because they take into account a number of difficulties which we are encountering and may still encounter in implementing this year's plan.

For instance, voices are heard in some places saying: We are not given enough metal and there is not enough electricity. That must be put right. But we also proceed from the premise that Communists, enterprise leaders and all labor collectives, particularly yours, will seek internal reserves to ensure the all-around saving of all types of resources.

As you recall, the plenum raised in acute terms the question of the lag behind the indicators outlined by the 5-year plan found in a number of the most important sectors of our economic activity. It was also said that labor productivity is growing at a pace which cannot now satisfy us. You can probably feel for yourselves that our affairs in the economy are not proceeding as well as you would like.

The point is this: What we produce frequently costs us too much. There are substantial overexpenditures of material and financial assets and labor expenditures are excessive. As a result there is the formation of a disproportion between the growth in production and the growth in the population's money income.

Here is one of the sources of the disproportion. You all know the expression "to correct the plan." I must admit I have never heard of this correction being in the direction of an increase in the plan target. If people say it must be "corrected" then they are talking of reducing it. (laughter in the hall) It is not hard to imagine what this leads to. Output is reduced but wages remain the same. Moreover, bonuses are also frequently still given for fulfilling a reduced plan. If you translate this to the statewide scale, there is a gulf between the quantity of goods in the stores and the money the population has.

There are no miracles, they say. You yourselves understand that the state can only provide as many goods as are produced. A rise in wages, if it is not backed up by the necessary good-quality goods and if the services sphere is faltering, cannot provide a real improvement in material prosperity.

The question arises: What is the way out of this situation?

Of course, it is possible to proceed along the path of raising prices. But this path does not suit us as a general one, although, it must be said, we do have certain distortions and discrepancies in prices and we must eliminate them.

What remains? The main path for us is to enhance production efficiency. Everything which we make and produce must be made and produced with the least possible expenditure, to a high quality, rapidly and to a good standard. More goods must be produced so that the shelves are not empty. I am speaking figuratively. You may say that your machine tools do not go into the stores, but ultimately it is your production which helps to produce the goods which do go into trade.

The plenum stated that this year is the core year of the 5-year plan. To be frank, we must finish what we failed to do in the first 2 years, and try to make up for what has been omitted and to create the conditions for normal work in the last 2 years of the 5-year plan.

It is important to improve the quality of work, to step up its pace, to make the production of output cheaper. That is the urgent task which confronts us.

Where, to use Lenin's words, is the link which must be seized in order to pull the entire chain? It is a long and heavy chain. Although everything cannot be reduced to discipline, it is with discipline that we must begin, comrades.

The Central Statistical Administration has issued a report that we are losing millions of man-hours through absences [otluchki] from production, smoking breaks and absenteeism, and that some people work in a slipshod manner.

We must do everything right now to ensure that in our country each person, I repeat, each person fulfills his norm and his production target. This demand is in no way excessive.

We have leading workers. Praise and honor to them. They are the pioneers, the beacons by which we are guided. But we cannot resolve the task through the efforts of the leading workers alone. It is necessary that every person fulfill the set target every day. Then we will be able to resolve the task I mentioned. Resolve it all together, by the entire working people.

That is why I ask you to look at what must be done to ensure that each person fulfills the target. If someone needs help -- then help him.

Why did the plenum raise the question of labor discipline in such acute terms?

First of all, it is a requirement of life. Because without proper discipline -- labor, plan and state discipline -- we will not be able to make rapid headway. The introduction of order really does not require any capital investments, yet it produces an enormous saving. An absentee, slipshod worker or idler harms not so much himself as the collective and all society as a whole.

I want to stress particularly that when we speak of discipline we have in mind the entire labor production process. Of course, all our efforts will come to nothing if the struggle for discipline which has been launched only skims the surface and is dissipated on trivia: someone is 5 minutes late, another has begun to take more frequent smoking breaks. Of course, they cannot be praised for it. It is essential to introduce order wherever working minutes are being lost. It is a case of a serious attitude toward all aspects of production discipline, including manufacturing and supply discipline and so forth. The effect from the enhancement of discipline must be felt in all elements of our production.

We need conscious worker discipline, the kind which will move production ahead. We need to give the struggle for discipline real expression and link it directly to the fulfillment of production targets, and then there will be no, so to speak, hot air [pustoy vykhlop]. What the November plenum of the party Central Committee outlined will then be fulfilled.

Yu.V. Andropov then dwelt on certain topical questions of the international situation. As you know, he said, at the 26th CPSU Congress L.I. Brezhnev stressed in his report that the situation was heating up, that the danger of war was increasing. Our party and the Soviet state are doing all they can to avert this threat and to protect peace.

It is easy to see that the bigger our successes, the stronger our economy and the better our national economic situation are, and the stronger our international positions and world peace will be.

I want to wish you success in your work for the good of our motherland and to express the confidence that you will discharge your duty with honor. (tumultuous, prolonged applause)

If you have any questions to ask me, please do. I would like to hear more from you about what is still being done wrong or not quite right in the matter of imposing discipline and what must still be done to move production ahead.

Assembly shop chief K.I. Meshchankin took the floor. He talked about the shop's work, about production. We were given a big plan, but we are trying to fulfill it. We will be supplying lines to the Kharkov Serp i Molot plant for the Don-1500 combine engine.

Yu.V. Andropov: That, incidentially, is an essential machine which the whole country is waiting for.

K.I. Meshchankin: We will make every effort to fulfill our task. We had a party meeting about the November plenum. Our worker collective took their own view of the decisions.

Yu.V. Andropov: What do you mean, their own view?

K.I. Meshchankin: In the first place, everyone acquired a new sense of responsibility for his work, for discipline. In that respect the plenum expressed our feelings, our sentiments. We were waiting for these decisions. We will continue to enhance the sense of responsibility and businesslike attitude and persistently eradicate shortcomings. The shop party meeting issued instructions to elaborate specific proposals relating to improving our entire collective's labor. These proposals have now been formulated and are being introduced into the shop's daily life.

Fitter and Hero of Socialist Labor V.G. Komarov then spoke: I work in the custom-built equipment assembly shop. Our plant workers make automatic lines, very complex machine tools and machine tools with program control. The talk today was necessary and good. By way of conclusion I would say: We must now work in such a way that no one is ashamed of us, that the plans outlined by the 26th party congress and the May and November plenums of the CPSU Central Committee are not simply fulfilled, but are fulfilled with a will, and are overfulfilled. We must strive to produce, as you, Yuriy Vladimirovich, said, only high-quality products. I am secretary of the party organization in the shop. On behalf of the Communists I will say that discipline, as you rightly said, is not just a matter of calculating how many minutes people are late....

Yu.V. Andropov: Yes, it is more than that.

V.G. Komarov: We made a firm decision at our meeting to create a general atmosphere of intolerence of all violations. The main task remains that of focusing efforts to implement proposals aimed at increasing labor productivity and reducing losses of worktime and production losses. We must also do all we can for the collective and create the kind of conditions whereby when you come to work, work gives you joy and satisfaction. Joy at what you have done today. Here is a simple example. I had a young worker called Mikhail Stepanenkov. We made a machine tool together. I was interested to see him look at the assembled and operating machine tool with a lively interest; I was even surprised. The young fellow went up to the tool and said: "Look, it's working!" It is also nice for me to be working in the same shop as such celebrated workers as Fedor Kuzmich Bukharev and Aleksey Fedorovich Shumilkin. It is fine to have people like them educating young workers here. How our replacements work will depend on our efforts to educate them. What we put into them they will then give to the plant.

T.A. Komarova, chief of the finishing shop, took the floor. More than half the people in our shop are cadre workers, she said, the rest being youngsters. Therefore the question of educating and training young workers in professional skills is a very crucial one for us. We devote a lot of attention to it. For example, the teams are organized in such a way that there are young workers and mentors in each. The teams are led by Communists. They are mainly women in the shop, and very few men.

Yu.V. Andropov: What, you don't let them into the shop?

T.A. Komarova: Well, you see, men are not exactly lining up to work here.

Yu.V. Andropov: Why?

T.A. Komarova: They come and they go. They consider it very tough in our shop since the work is unhealthy and they like to take care of themselves. Well, of course, it is sometimes difficult to work with women. But there are big pluses. For example, with few exceptions there is no lateness in our shop, no absenteeism. Our bad luck is of a different kind. Time losses during the shift are still great. We are combating them very earnestly at the moment.

Yu.V. Andropov: How are they formed?

T.A. Komarova: In different ways. It can happen that we receive paint and varnish materials that are not good enough -- which greatly hampers our work. Sometimes we are forced to redo a job just because we are using substandard materials. It can happen that a component or a not very good casting is not delivered to us on time. This also makes us do extra work. I believe that we will cope with this misfortune this year, particularly as it seems that the paint and varnish industry -- so we are told, at least -- will improve the quality of its products. We also have the problem of small-scale mechanization. We have small polishing machines, but they weight 2 kg and vibrate so much when operating that your whole body shakes.

Yu.V. Andropov: Who makes these small machines?

N.S. Chikirev: The Ministry of Construction, Road and Municipal Machine Building.

T. A. Komarova: Of course, everything I have mentioned holds us back a great deal and affects labor productivity, but nonetheless we will fulfill our socialist pledges in 1983.

As ours is a women's shop, I would like to say a few words about social questions. It is very good that all who wish to are able to leave their children in a creche. We have a good canteen. We have the opportunity to buy food in the plant -- which is also of considerable importance to women.

Yu.V. Andropov: To men as well, incidentally. (laughter in the hall)

T.A. Komarova: But particularly to us. We receive travel passes. We female workers are provided with sanatorium passes. Privilege passes to rest homes are given. Women with children also enjoy privileges.

V.S. Yemelyanov, senior shop foreman and secretary of the shop party organization, spoke. I have now been working in the plant for 23 years, he said. I came to the plant as a fitter-toolmaker and have been working as a foreman for more than 15 years. The technical equipment has grown up before my eyes, the product quality has improved, and the workers' qualificatilons have increased. We produce complex equipment for automatic lines and standard-unit machine tools. Our workers cope honorably with these tasks. Of course, Communists are in the vanguard of this great work. The following, for example, can say this of their sections--borer operator Isakov, milling machine operator Polyakov, fitter Grechishkin and many, many others. The whole collective welcomed the decisions of the November plenum of our party's Central Committee and correctly realizes the significance of production organization and labor discipline. We assure you that our section and, I believe, our plant's entire collective will cope with the task.

Yu.V. Andropov: May I ask an indiscreet question? Are there many violators in your shop?

V.S. Yemelyanov: In January, it can be said, we reached zero on this question. Of course, both our laws and administrative penalties must play a role in labor discipline, but in my view the role of the labor collective is of the greatest significance here.

Yu.V. Andropov: Undoubtedly the greatest.

V.S. Yemelyanov: We are now organizing work in the shop according to the team method. We will shortly go over to this form of work as an entire shop. This will open up great reserves for us in strengthening labor discipline and improving labor productivity. And, in general, it would be a good thing to talk less and do more.

Yu. V. Andropov: Right. This is important not only for your plant but everywhere.

The break period was running out. The meeting of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with the Moscow machine tool builders was also drawing to a close.

V.V. Grishin, member of the Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, spoke in conclusion. He gave an assurance that Communists and all of working Moscow will devote all their efforts to fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November plenum. Indeed, he said, it is necessary to instill order both in discipline and in the fulfillment of plans. The plenum set clear-cut tasks of how and in what direction it is necessary to work.

Yu.V. Andropov: And not fizzle out. This is a long-term task.

V.V. Grishin: And the decisive role in this must, of course, belong to Communists, party organizations and your plant's party organization, which must inspire everyone to struggle to realize these tasks. Yuriy Vladimirovich has spoken here about strengthening discipline. Indeed, this is a multifaceted question. And it is not only necessary to arrive at and leave work on time, although this is very important.

A very important constituent part of the strengthening of discipline is the creation of good conditions in production: to ensure that it is planned efficiently, that material and technical supplies are ensured, and equipment is adjusted. It is necessary to strengthen both production discipline and plan discipline. It has been rightly said here that the decisive role belongs to the collective. When public opinion is created in the collective about every instance of labor discipline being violated, this will be a very strong means, stronger than all others.

Yu.V. Andropov: A few words in connection with what Comrade Grishin was saying just now. I would like the comrades to understand correctly that the question of strengthening discipline applies not only to workers and to engineering and technical personnel. It applies to everyone, starting with ministers.

In conclusion Comrade Yu.V. Andropov thanked the machine tool builders once again for their good deeds and the cordial meeting. He wished them good health and success in production and in resolving the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee November plenum.

'POLITICAL OBSERVER' DISCUSSES LABOR DISCIPLINE

OW290213 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 0640 GMT on 22 January carries its regularly scheduled 30-minute "Political Observer's Talk" program with Viktor Prokofyevich Beketov, devoted to viewers' letters on labor discipline.

Beketov begins the program by stressing the importance of labor discipline and responsibility, noting time lost during working hours. Citing a letter from a worker from the Kalinin excavator plant, he says: "Everthing today depends on discipline: the rise in labor productivity, the quality of products and their prime cost." "Nevertheless, quite frankly, we are not waging a genuine struggle against violators of labor discipline. I think workers of many enterprises, institutions and organizations would subscribe to my interlocuter's story. The situation in rural areas -- in kolkhozes and sovkozes -- is no better. That is why Soviet people received Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's directive, contained in his speech at the November CPSU Central Committee plenum, with such approval: 'The struggle against any violations of party, state or labor discipline should be waged more resolutely.' That is why the initiative of leading Moscow collectives calling for a resolute improvement in labor organization, intensification of the struggle against wastefulness and making model order in production the everyday norm, is so unanimously supported throughout the country."

Beketov cites letters urging better labor organization, and the importance of public clocks keeping accurate time to ensure the proper working of the transportation system and to strengthen labor discipline. Turning to the need for a more rational utilization of time, Beketov cites a letter from a lathe operator at the Leningrad Kirovskiy Zavod association who complains about employment of excess manpower. Beketov notes there is too much idleness and procrastination at work, "a striving to walk away from a question instead of solving it, arranging personal affairs during working hours and endless soliciting of medical certificates from acquaintance physicians."

Beketov then reads a letter from an expediter [tolkach] in the forestry industry who complains of having little or no work to do, and an unsigned letter from a comrade who boasts of not having worked for a number of years, and has a car, a well-stocked refrigerator and a well-dressed wife. He ends his letter: "No one bothers me and no one asks me why I do not work or how I live. Do not think I am the only one like this. Many, many of us have proliferated in the last 15-20 years. We increase together with profiteering and bribery."

Beketov continues to cite examples of parasitism, lateness for work and people calling for outside help in repair work when the work could easily be done themselves. He notes that he will be discussing the problems of alcoholism in an upcoming program and in conclusion reiterates the need for an overall complex approach to strengthening labor discipline.

LAX DISCIPLINE AFFECTS PLANT'S PERFORMANCE

PM271109 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 2, Jan 83, Signed to Press 3 Jan 83, p 16

[Correspondent V. Varavka report under the "Discipline and Responsibility" rubric: "The Cost of Absenteeism" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Gorkiy [no date given] -- Last year the Gorkiy metallurgical plant lost over 6,000 man-days because of absenteeism. As a result there was a large output shortfall and the production rhythm was disrupted. The enterprise collective must declare a resolute war on slackers!

Two "news flashes" appeared almost simultaneously at the entrance to the Gorkiy metallurgical plant site. They were announcements of the labor victory of the teams led by master rolling mill operators Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Kokonin and Yefim Dmitrivevich Ruzankin. The first team produced 271 tons of metal of the required shape in one shift and the second produced 247 tons, thereby exceeding their targets by nearly 50 percent. I inquired at the labor and wages department how these successes were achieved, and how matters stood with the fulfillment of the production program by the enterprise as a whole.

"In the metallurgical shops," section chief L. Krupkina reported, "we establish work norms in accordance with the plan. They are fairly stiff but quite realistic for those collectives with good order and strong discipline. The team led by foreman Boris Nikolayevich Maslennikov in the rolled metal shop is an example of coherence, zeal and the ability to regard every minute as precious. Recently the team received a bonus for high productivity, avoiding waste and saving resources. But unfortunately on a plantwide scale our indicators are very modest and nothing to boast about as yet.

Economists prepared a report on the work time losses in the first 11 months of 1982. Absenteeism alone amounted to over 6,000 man-days or over 2 shifts per worker. So-called unpaid leave is taken too often here without sufficient reason. Equipment downtime causes great harm to production. According to the figures, the electric furnaces should not be switched off for more than 5.6 percent of the plan time, but in fact the figure is almost four times greater.

It is a similar picture in the instrument subsections engaged in manufacturing industrial saws and knives. Downtime there during the period in question was nearly 36 percent. That is the equivalent of 400,000 machine-hours! There was a large output shortfall, prime costs rose, the return on capital fell, and, of course, wages did not rise.

For fairness' sake let us note that the plant has a high proportion of old and basically worn-out equipment. Whether to replace or modernize it is the concern of the management and of the leadership of the Soyuzspetsstal all-union production association (chief P. Menushenkov). There has been more than enough talk about this, but long speeches do not rectify matters. At the very least, major, intermediate and current repairs must be carried out promptly and to a high standard. The obligation there rests on the chief mechanic's department, which is understaffed and therefore equipment "treatment" schedules are often violated and faults occurring during the working day are not eliminated for a long time.

"According to my estimates," punch operator M. Grushina said, "I waste an average of 1 hour per shift. Sometimes you could wait forever for a fitter to eliminate a defect, other times you cannot find even the simplest spare part to serve as a replacement."

"How many valuable minutes, increasing as the weeks and fortnights pass, are consumed by shortages and the poor quality of instruments which, incidentally, are on the whole made at our own enterprise! my view two machine operators in the first shop each had a 15-minute 'smoke break' because of a shortage of the so-called pins [shpilka] used to make the holes in saw handles. With 'organization' like that you can hardly expect to fulfill even reduced and frequently revised targets."

It cannot be said that the enterprise is not combatting slipshod workers and shirkers who are late for shifts and disappear from the shop early. They are spoken to, they lose their bonuses, sometimes there are investigations at meetings and sometimes at courts comprising their comrades. But all of this is done in a somewhat formalistic way with the utmost restraint in evaluating actions with sometimes less of a sense of condemnation than sympathy in what is said. In this context it is interesting to listen to former heat specialist Modest Grigoryevich Lunev, who is now a packing worker.

"I retired 4 years ago. But how can you sit at home when in industry, to which you have devoted quite a few years, things are not right and there is a manpower shortage. As you see, I came back; I work as hard as I can but I notice that plant discipline has not become any stricter, on the contrary, it has deteriorated. It also seems to me that slipshod workers have simply become more brazen and are dictating their own 'conditions.' It is a shameful thing to admit but sometimes 20 honest workers cannot make a single wrongdoer see reason.

"In my opinion," Modest Grigoryevich continued with support from foreman Georgiy Leontyevich Tretyakov, "'drifters,' malingerers, idlers and drunkards should be shown no leniency. When dismissing them only the genuine reason should be indicated, not some face-saving phrase like 'at his own request.' When learning a new trade elsewhere, persistent violators of labor discipline should not be paid the trainee rate. The state has already provided for their upkeep once, that is enough."

There is insufficient demand for discipline from foremen whose numbers here are greater than at many similar enterprises, and from shop chiefs. Why are there fewer losses of working time, higher labor productivity and far fewer disruptions in production in the metal rolling shop? To a considerable extent, it seems, because that collective is led by communist Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Medvedev, a responsible man who makes great demands on himself and his subordinates.

Very little has been done at the plant to reduce turnover. It fluctuates between 17-20 percent, that is, double the same indicator at other metallurgical production units in the oblast. The plant entrance building exists as a formality. It is easily avoided by latecomers and those who leave work 1-2 hours early.

The continual increase in the number of piece workers failing to meet output norms is also directly linked to the general "lack of drive" and fall in exactingness. In 1975 they numbered only 4 percent, in 1980 17 percent and now about 30 percent.

Before leaving the plant I recounted all this to plant director V.P. Mashtakov.

"The shortcomings that have been noted are basically correct," Valeriy Pavlovich confirmed. "We know about them and will take the appropriate measures."

When? Enough of the reassuring words; perhaps it is time for instilling some order?

The role of Communists in combatting negligence and all manfestations of mismanagement is great. There are 547 Communists at the enterprise -- almost one worker in six. The plant party organization can and must make a more substantial contribution to the struggle to strengthen discipline.

GRISHKYAVICHUS INTERVIEWED ON WORK WITH LETTERS

PM310931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[Interview with First Secretary of the Lithuanian CP Central Committee P.P. Grishkyavichus by D. Shayukas: "Letter to the Party Committee" -- first two paragraphs are PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] A genuine human document, a source of confidential information, one way of implementing Soviet citizens' constitutional rights -- that is what we call working people's letters and suggestions to the party and soviet organs and economic and public organizations. In December 1982 the CPSU Central Committee Politburo noted at its session that letters are evidence of the working people's political activeness and their direct participation in improving all forms of management of the socialist economy.

P.P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Lithuanian CP Central Committee, describes experience of work with letters in a talk with a PRAVDA correspondent.

Vilnyus [no date given] -- [Question] The Lithuanian CP Central Committee's mail indicates a recent increase in suggestions and statements and a decrease in the number of personal complaints. Please tell us, Pyatras Pyatrovich, what has caused this qualitative change?

[Answer] I think there are several reasons here. As is well known, the majority of complaints are of a consumer nature. Our society's advance and the fulfillment of the economic, social and cultural program outlined by the 26th CPSU Congress remove from the agenda several questions which served as a source of complaints. For instance, 1.6 million square meters of housing are commissioned in Lithuania every year -- over the 5-year plan almost one in five of the republic's inhabitants is moving to a more spacious apartment. The formerly worrying problem of resettling people from huts and basements is being resolved quite successfully. The number of complaints about consumer services has also fallen. In some cities the problem of preschool institutions has been resolved. Much has been done and is still being done to eliminate social differences between the city and the countryside.

Ideological and mass political work and constant and demanding attention toward cadres are producing results.

There is more. Many party organizations have rejected the yardstick of quantitative indicators as the main criterion. The prompt processing of incoming letters, verification, reply, the restoration of justice and, if there is a need for it, the punishment of culprits become not an end in themselves but a pretext for a deeper analysis and for thought. We demand that the party organizations not simply "extinguish" the "conflagrations" which break out but perform fruitful preventive work.

To this end last year alone the Central Committee verified work with working people's letters in the Klaypeda and Panevezhis Gorkoms and in 30 ministries and departments. The Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat discussed six issues that were prompted by letters.

Every month letters are analyzed at the Lithuanian CP Central Committee according to a special classifier in terms of their nature, subject matter, authors, and causes. Notes, surveys and information reports are prepared. This analysis is also carried out in the soviet and economic organs. True, difficulties sometimes arise in this work. The point is that the union organs of management sometimes demand from the organizations under their jurisdiction overly diverse reports on letters, and some instructions and other documents regulating work with mail do not accord with the requirements of the time.

[Question] Any system, even a well organized one, is of benefit only when experience is promptly disseminated, matters are resolved swiftly and shortcoming are eliminated immediately....

[Answer] Of course, it is far easier to elaborate a system that to achieve a good result. In this connection I would like to note that every quarter we hold conferences of the workers of party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organs and editorial offices directly responsible for work with people's letters. At these meetings we analyze the specific and characteristic reasons for the emergence of compliants and suggest ways of using proposals and alarm singals in resolving national economic tasks. The overwhelming majority of the conflicts and disagreements that arise and are described in letters can as a rule be resolved locally, but sometimes they are not resolved. Another category of complaints simply vanishes -- after a clear explanation of existing rules and legal norms. In brief, much depends on how the working people's statements and proposals are treated locally.

That is why we demand that leaders of all ranks make reports on work with letters at least once a year. An interesting, frank dialogue is conducted on complaints and proposals at the Kaunass furniture combine, the Vilnyus Sparta factory, and the Mugelai construction materials production association. It is not surprising that there are few alarms signals from these collectives. The number of these signals from Kaunas, Klaypeda and Panevezhis and Anikshchyayskiy, Shvenchenskiy and other rayons has decreased. That is the result of the large amount of complex work preformed by the local party organizations.

In some of the republic's cities and rayons science and practice conferences have been held on questions of improving work with letters and verbal statements from working people, studying public opinion and using it in daily affairs. A republican science and practice conference is being prepared.

Good results are produced by open letter days, as well as integrated political days and reports by leaders to enterprises. Prior notification is given of the upcoming meeting and its subject matter and questions concerning people are gradually collected, are attentively analyzed and, if possible, the shortcomings are eliminated immediately, on the spot. The newspapers TIYESA, SOVETSKAYA LITVA, CHERVONY SHTANDAR AND VECHERNIYE NOVOSTI and others have held open letter days in many cities and rayons.

Questions of medical, consumer and municipal services and the ethics of production relationships were discussed. The newspapers not only publish detailed reports on these meetings but also struggle for the effectiveness of published items.

Republican television organizes interesting broadcasts. Ministry and department leaders speak on topical issues and viewers have the opportunity to telephone directly to the studio, dictate their question and immediately receive an answer while the program is in progress.

[Question] It sometimes still happens that after the facts in a letter have been checked the truth is reinstated but those to blame for the conflict remain aloof. Convinced that they will not be punished, they not only do not change their style of work but try to persecute the authors of complaints....

[Answer] Unfortunately, this problem does exist. The liberalism, lack of principle, incompetence and lack of objectivity of some checkers is to blame. I shall cite a specific instance. A group of workers from the Lazdiyay mobile mechanized column reported to the Central Committee that their leader, A. Bolisas, was violating staff discipline, squandering the stock materials, getting drunk on the job and being rude. A commission of personnel from the republic's Ministry of Agriculture was assigned the task of checking the complaint. But it found nothing reprehensible in Bolisas' actions. As soon as the inspectors had left, the chief called people into his office and threatened to dismiss anyone who continued to write complaints. Only a second commission revealed the pseudo-leader's abuses and he was deservedly punished at a ministry Collegium session.

The Lithuanian CP Central Committee makes an appropriate assessment of manifestations of conceit, bureaucratism and unprincipledness; such cases prompt people to write complaints, sometimes repeat ones. Exactingness, order, honesty and principledness are needed to eliminate them.

In brief, we try to measure the effectiveness of work with letters by the end results. The better they are, the more people will trust the local organs.

Sometimes a seemingly simple letter can give rise to profound conclusions. For instance, after an alarm signal from passenger I. Pavlov criticizing the service on the Liyetuva firm's train, the question of the work of railroad transport was discussed at the Lithuanian CP Central Committee and the republic's Council of Ministers and a number of responsible comrades were sanctioned. But the main thing was that the state of affairs changed.

After alarm signals about officials who had forgotten modesty and begun to confuse their personal interests with state interests, several responsible workers were dismissed. They included Yu. Indrashyus, chief of the Kaunas city motor vehicle inspectorate, P. Varnas, director of the Kretinga interrayon Zoovetsnab base, and A. Shidlauskas, chairman of the Michurin Kolkhoz, Mazheyskiy Rayon.

Many letters cite instances which show that in a number of places a proper struggle is not being waged against people who allow thriftlessness, eyewash, the exaggeration of data, the uneconomical expenditure of material resources and squandering. Alarm signals are also received concerning the need to step up the struggle against violators of public order and embezzlements of socialist property. In this case too the strictest measures have to be applied.

The further development of the Leninist principles of democracy requires a responsible, truly party-minded attitude toward working people's letters and proposals. Every party and soviet worker and enterprise and institution leader must view this work as his duty to the people and the party.

AFP: DISSIDENT'S WIFE SENDS APPEAL TO ANDROPOV

NC312107 Paris AFP in English 2053 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, Jan 31 (AFP) -- Irina Orlova, wife of dissident Soviet physicist Yuriy Orlov, has appealed to Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov to end the "inhuman conditions" in which her 58-year-old ailing husband is being held in a prison camp.

Yuriy Orlov, founder of a group set up to monitor the Helsinki accords, was "severely beaten" by another detainee in October, she claimed. Mrs Orlova alleged in a letter to Mr Andropov that her husband was subject both to the control of the camp administration and of KGB agents whose "cruelty," she said, was added to the severe treatment in the camp. "One wonders whether Yuriy Orlov is in a penitentiary controlled by the state or if he is under the unlimited power of criminals," she wrote.

Her husband, who was sentenced to seven years imprisonment in 1977 on charges of spreading "anti-Soviet propaganda" was kept in solitary confinement for two weeks after being attacked, she said. Following a "denunciation," he had been sentenced a month later to six months in a disciplinary cell, where he was forced to make wire netting and had been deprived of correspondence for three months, she continued.

Mrs Orlova concluded by urging Mr Andropov to set up an inquiry into the running of the camp, situated in the Ural Mountains.

PERSONNEL CHANGES IN AZERBAIJAN GOVERNMENT

WA021000 [Editorial Report] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian on 8 January carries on page 1 two 50-word decrees of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium announcing the appointment of a new minister and state committee chairman. Gasanov, Sh.N. was appointed Azerbaijan SSR minister of rural construction [filling a post vacant since 30 October]; Isayev, G.I. has been named chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education [filling a post vacant since 18 October].

UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM HOLDS SESSION

AU271133 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0330 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] A routine session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium was held on 26 January, and chaired by Vatchenko, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The presidum examined the results of the work performed by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and its organs, as well as the results of the organizational mass work performed by local soviets in 1982. The Presidium discussed the work performed by Chernovtsy Oblast soviets of people's deputies to ensure comprehensive economic and social development on their territories. Oblispolkom Chairman Lenchynskiy delivered a report. The Presidium adopted a decision obligating Chernovtsy Oblispolkom to take steps to eliminate the shortcomings noted, and set tasks for further improving the work of local soviets to ensure comprehensive economic and social development on the territories subordinated to them.

Executive committees of the oblast soviets of people's deputies in the republic have been instructed to pay particular attention to the consolidation of state, production and labor discipline in all economic sectors in line with the requirements of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum, and to direct organizational work at the development of mass socialist competitions for fulfilling the overfulfilling the plans for 1983 and the 11th 5-Year Plan.

The Presidium also examined the issues of awarding mothers of many children, of granting the citizenship of the Ukrainian SSR, and some other things. Appropriate decrees and decisions were adopted.

Those participating in the discussion on the issues were: Titarenko, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, second secretary; Sologub, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, and chairman of the Ukrainian Trade Unions Council; Bakhtin and Shevchenko, deputy chairmen of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium; Korniyenko and Klyutinskiy, members of the presidium; Yakimenko, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Court; and others.

The session was attended and addressed by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist.

ARMENIAN SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM HOLDS SESSION

GF020500 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 30 Dec 82 p 1

[Excerpts] The Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium held its regular session. The presidium reviewed issues dealing with the public's letters in light of the resolutions of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum and the decision of its Politburo.

It also reviewed the means for the achievement of the tasks of the people's deputies councils regarding the management of state, economic and sociocultural construction in accordance with the means and proposals mentioned by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, the convention of USSR and RSFSR Supreme Soviets and the USSR 60th anniversary. The Presidium urged serious attention to further strengthening state and labor discipline. It urged the republic's local councils and their executive committees to take corresponding measures in this regard.

The Presidium heard an address by G.A. Ayrapetyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers, on the activity of the supervising commission of the republic's Council of Ministers. The adopted decision orders the commisssion to establish means to strengthen the management work of the supervising commissions of the city and rayon soviets of people's deputies executive committees, radically improve their activity, carry out concrete organizational work with the chairmen of those commissions, and hold periodic consultations with them regarding the important issues related with their activity.

The Presidium heard an address by S.A. Osipyan, Armenian SSR procurator, on the means to improve the work of the Procuracy regarding the strengthening of the struggle against rights violations in the republic, in light of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

The session reviewed the proposals and remarks made by the permanent committees of the Supreme Soviet and the deputies at the 6th session of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet. The session decided to submit those issues to the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers for revision in order to make the necessary recommendations to the corresponding ministries, commissions and organizations.

The Presidium discussed the results of the implementation of the 1982 plans by the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and its permanent committees and approved the plan for their activity in 1983 by taking into account the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress, 27th Armenian Communist Party Congress, and May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenums; the task of the Soviets of people's deputies toward economic and sociocultural construction in their sectors; and the successful completion of the Food Program. Other issues were also reviewed and corresponding decrees and resolutions were adopted.

PROGRESS OF SIBERIA-W. EUROPE PIPELINE REPORTED

LD011631 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS -- Construction work in the route of the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline are precisely and smoothly under way, much ahead of schedule, 320 kilometres of gas pipeline were welded in January, 500 kilometres of pipes of the export line were laid into trenches.

A total of 2,800 kilometres of pipes were welded by this day in the gas pipeline route, a TASS correspondent has been told at the Ministry of Oil and Gas Industry Construction of the USSR.

The driving of the export gas pipeline is now under way in the whole length of the 4,451 kilometre route from the Urengoy deposit in Western Siberia to the western frontier of the USSR. Trials of a number of completed sections of the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline are under way in the central part of the country.

The gas pipeline is being built by 47 construction teams. A total of 51 teams will work on the route in February. The most strenuous section of the construction project is now in Western Siberia. The main task of the builders there is to complete the construction of the route before the beginning of spring slush will make places, where the gas pipeline will run, impassable for machines.

On the territory of the European part of the USSR the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline has "coped with" all navigable rivers such as the Volga, Don, Dnieper, Kama. In February the builders plan to complete a passage, the longest route, across the Siberian river of Ob. Its length is almost 3 kilometres.

TRUD VIEWS SAFETY, CLEANLINESS OF AES SITES

PM271107 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian on 19 January carries on page 2 a 1,600-word article entitled "And No Radiation..." by correspondent V. Kapelkin, who writes from the Smolensk AES construction site at Desnogorsk. The article carries an editorial introduction which asks in general terms, on behalf of "people unconnected with the work of AESes," what dangers are involved in their operation. Kapelkin stresses the constant "monitoring" of equipment and health checks on personnel. He quotes an official's reply that the AES's design capacity can withstand earthquakes "far in excess" of those likely for that latitude. Kapelkin asserts that AESes are so "clean" that they do not harm the local environment. After claiming that thermal power stations produce more radioactivity than AESes, Kapelkin concludes by stressing the latter's advantages.

TV FILM ON FIRM'S 'LABOR RETENTION' PROBLEMS

OW280905 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 0210 GMT on 28 January broadcasts the scheduled 30-minute documentary film "The Company's Secret." The film is devoted to the labor retention problems of the Leningrad optical machinery association and how the association's management, particularly the director, cope with this issue. Old and young workers are interviewed against a background of the association's production operations.

BRIEFS

CENTRAL ASIAN GAS COMPLEX -- Central Asia's biggest gas complex has been formed in the Kyzylkum Desert. The complex includes 18 fields and a high-capacity gas-processing works. The enterprise processes 15,000 million cubic metres of gas a year, and extracts sulphur from it. The purified fuel comes to the gas pipeline system. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 28 Jan 83 LD]

UNIT COMMANDER DISMISSED FROM ARMED FORCES

PM011631 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Feb 83 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Following a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA report": "Tractor for...the Ensign"]

[Text] That was the heading under which KRASNAYA ZVEZDA published a report from Major O. Falichev on 2 December 1982. It discussed instances of the abuse of official positions committed by Major V. Stepanov, a subunit commander, and several other officials in the subunit.

The deputy commander and deputy chief of the "N" unit political section and the Leningrad Military District military prosecutor's office responded to the newspaper's critical report.

Party and Komsomol meetings were held in the subunit to discuss measures to strengthen discipline and organization and ensure that Communists and Komsomol members set a personal example in service and conduct. Steps are being taken to improve educational work with the personnel.

Maj V. Stepanov was dismissed from the Armed Forces ranks into the reserve for neglect of his official duties and abuse of his official position. A new subunit commander has been appointed in his place.

Senior Ensigns G. Kondratyev and N. Galushko and Ensign N. Geyko were disciplined. They fully replaced the material damage caused to the state. Ensign V. Shumov, reprimanded in an order issued by the formation commander, is being moved to a new place of service.

Lieutenant Colonel A. Paednikov was severaly reprimanded for relaxing control over the repair subunit's activity.

YEPISHEV AT STALINGRAD BATTLE ANNIVERSARY MEETING

LD020040 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Speech by Army General Aleksey Alekseyevich Yepishev, head of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, at the meeting held in Volgograd on 1 February to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the German defeat at Stalingrad; recorded]

[Text] It was from here, from this historic border, that the expulsion of the hated enemy of our native land began. The memory of that will live forever in our hearts and in the hearts of future generations. The historic feat of Stalingrad has been sung in poems and songs, in stories and legends, and has been carved in granite and marble. It is a feat truly worthy of the loftiest, most stirring and noble words.

The feat of Stalingrad is a vivid embodiment of the wisdom of our party. It demonstrates the great vital capacity of the new social and state system born of October and the inexhaustible potential of the socialist economy. It also confirms the all-conquering force of Marxist-Leninist ideology, the indestructible unity of Soviet society and the friendship of the peoples of the USSR. It again proves the decisive superiority of socialist military organization, the Soviet art of war and the military skills of Soviet fighting men over the enemy. We pay profound tribute to the heroes of Stalingrad who honorably performed their duty to the motherland. [applause]

Comrades, in marking the 40th anniversary of the Battle of Stalingrad we think with a feeling of profound love, respect and gratitude of those for whom the Volga border was their last and who gave what was the dearest for them, their lives, for the sake of victory. The duty of those now living and of future generations is to worthily continue the cause for which they fought. The whole reality of our developed socialist society graphically testifies to the fact that the Soviet people are unshakably true to that duty. [applause]

DEFENSE MINISTRY LAUDS URALS INITIATIVE

PM211649 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 15 January in the Second Edition publishes on page 1 a 400-word unattributed report headed "At the USSR Defense Ministry and the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate: Working Efficiently and Well and Guaranteeing a High Standard of Services." The report expresses the approval of the ministry and directorate and the trade union committee for a "patriotic initiative by workers in a leading military trade administration in the Red Banner Urals Military District." The report is followed by the 1,000-word text of the workers' "appeal" to "all workers in military trade under the USSR Defense Ministry," calling for improvements in the work of the trade and services sector in the military sphere.

BRIEFS

UKRAINIAN DOSAAF CONGRESS -- The Ukraine's DOSAAF organizations, numbering more than 22 members, are engaged in the military and patriotic education of the working people, in the training of specialists for the country's Armed Forces and of mass technical cadres for the national economy, and in developing the military and technical kinds of sports. The issue of how best to accomplish the DOSAAF tasks stemming from the 26th CPSU Congress decisions was on the agenda of the fifth congress of the republic's defense society, which opened in Kiev on 24 January. A report was delivered by Colonel General of Aviation Korotchenko, Central Committee chairman in the Ukrainian SSR DOSAAF. Participating in the congress proceedings were Titarenko, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and member of the Politburo; Yelchenko, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kiev Gorkom; and Colonel General of Aviation, Hero of the USSR Kharlamov, deputy chairman of the ALL-Union DOSAAF Central Committee. [Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 24 Jan 83 AU]